



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue
Social dialogue, Industrial Relations

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR FURNITURE
Plenary meeting
25 May 2012

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The agenda is adopted

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the plenary meeting of 22 November 2011

The minutes are adopted

3. New Community Strategy on OSH 2013/2020 – Presentation of the Joint Position and of the dissemination activities

Presentation by Rolf Gehring of the Strategy and the common position adopted by the Committee.

So far, the Commission has not reacted to this document and François Ziegler intends to draw the Commission' attention on it. The EU social partners recall that pressure should also be made at the level of the MS in order to taking their common position into account. The EU social partners envisage presenting their text, at the occasion of the Health and Safety conference to be held in Denmark, end June.

4. Project on Nanotechnologies – Status of the project

Reporting on the on-going project (*fact sheets, exposure measurements,...*) whose final results will be presented in Firenze on 15 June 2012.

5. Project FAR 3 – Report on the activities held – Discussion on eventual following steps

This on-going project concerns identification and diffusion of the best practices on accidents prevention. The EU social partners have discussed the feasibility to addressing other themes, such as dust risks or nanotechnologies, and have agreed to entrust the working group with further reflection on this issue.

6. ERASMUS FOR ALL – Presentation of the Communication from the Commission (COM(2011) 787 final)

Presentation by Rolf Gehring of the EU initiative.

The EU social partners have agreed on entrusting the working group on vocational training with a reflection in view to possibly integrate the new EU proposals within its programme.

7. Sector Skills Council – State of the art of the running project and discussion

The presentation of the on-going project is made by the Employer 'side.

The project explores the feasibility to implement a skills council for the furniture sector as proposed by the Commission. A discussion has taken place concerning the added value of implementation such a Committee, having regard to the administrative capacity of the EU social partners, its impact, its representativeness and financial support.

8. Bolster-up project – Report on the status of the activities

Presentation

9. Social label for the furniture industry – Proposal for a joint project (feasibility study) – Presentation and discussion

The presentation of this project is made by the Employer 'side (UEA).

It aims at forging an independent system of certification for the sector with a view to certify the quality of productions. The Workers' side is ready to cooperate on this joint action, but EFIC pretends that this type of labelling already exists for the sector, and needs time to reflect before entering into a common project on the issue.

10. SISMIILE project – Presentation

This project is financed by Leonardo funding.

It aims at delivering vocational training courses in order to improve the resistance of furniture facing earthquake situations.

11. AOB

Reporting on the activities of the advisory committee led by DG MARKT on competitiveness and innovation.

The Employer 'side suggests that the social dialogue committee should reflect on the adoption of a common position on the last EU initiative on "job –rich recovery". The Worker 'side has agreed on the principle, but it draws attention on the very comprehensive list of issues raised by the Commission within its communication, and also on the delicate question of "self-employment". The EU social partners have agreed on assessing the document before September with a view to adopt possible opinion on it.