



# Binding agreements for European Sectoral Social Partners

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## Article 1

During the first phase of consultation, the opinion to be formulated on the opportunity to legislate or to search for a European agreement between social partners shall be prepared by the Secretariat together with the Steering Committee and the relevant Expert Groups and approved by the General Assembly in accordance with Article 16. If this opinion authorises the later search for an agreement, a mandate to start the negotiations is given to the delegation approved by the General Assembly; this mandate explains the object of these negotiations.

## Article 2

The Steering Committee shall propose the composition of the delegation and the name of its head. The representatives must be chosen for the entire duration of the negotiations and in such a way that they can attend all the meetings; the delegation must include the Director General or a replacement designated by him/her. The proposal of the Steering Committee must be submitted for the approval of the General Assembly in accordance with Article 16.



## Article 3

The first contacts with the European social partners for the determination of the estimated schedule for negotiations shall be carried out by the designated head of the delegation, in liaison with the Director General or a replacement designated by the latter. The Secretariat shall then propose the terms of a mandate of negotiations subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

## Article 4

The head of the delegation shall keep the General Assembly informed at each phase of the negotiations or according to an adopted schedule, to be defined. The General Assembly may be induced, in accordance with Article 16, to revise the terms of the prior mandate in the event that the progress of the negotiations requires this.



## Article 5

At the end of the negotiations, the Director General shall prepare a summary note for the members of the General Assembly. The General Assembly is called upon to definitively ratify the agreement and it will be validated in accordance with Article 16.

In the event of “agreements ... implemented ... in accordance with the procedures and practices specific to management and labour and the Member States ...” (see article 155, paragraph 2 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)) and in the event of other commitments of the social partners, approval of the General Assembly with a nine-tenth majority shall commit all the members of the Association to their implementation and follow-up. The Director General then has the authority to sign the ratified agreements.





Thank you for your attention