

Social Dialogue Committee Meeting
« Textile / Clothing »
JOINT ACTION PROGRAMME
2014



Today, the Textile and Clothing Industry is one of the strongest Industries in Europe with regard to revenue and employees. However, it is a fact that the industrial base is suffering facing the economic conjuncture as well as the wave of austerity policies around Europe.

EURATEX and IndustriAll Europe, the European social partners in the textile-clothing sector, seeking to fully play their role in the EU social dialogue, wish to joint their efforts in tackling these EU challenges by adopting the following work programme for 2014.

The aim of this programme for 2014, while also improving the interrelation between national and EU social dialogues, is to respond in the most appropriate manner to the Commission Communication dated October 28, 2010, entitled **“the Communication on *“An integrated industrial policy for the globalisation era”*** and the series of concrete solutions in two reports published to boost the single market (Single Market Act).

This programme also intends to respond to the 7 flagships initiatives¹ launched by the European Commission to boost growth and jobs, and especially the EU Communication on **“the agenda for new skills and jobs: A European contribution towards full employment”** adopted on 23/11/2010.

As the EU officially recognised that one of the main EU priorities was **“to increase productivity in manufacturing industry ...and thus to underpin the recovery of growth and jobs, restore health and safety and sustainability to the EU Economy and help sustain our social model... as outlined in the Europe 2020 Strategy”**, the social partners from the Textile and clothing Industry decided to structure their annual programme as follow:

- Following up the textile-clothing issue as part of External trade negotiations (FTA, WTO, GSP plus) and supporting the interests of the EU Industry both at economic and social levels facing third countries
- Following up the textile-clothing issues linked to the Textile Fibres names and related labelling and marking of the Fibre composition of Textile products fully implemented in May 2012

¹ Europe has identified new engines to boost growth and jobs. These areas are addressed by **7 flagship initiatives** (Digital agenda for Europe; Innovation Union; Youth on the move; Resource efficient Europe; An industrial policy for the globalization era; An agenda for new skills and jobs; European platform against poverty). Within each initiative, both the EU and national authorities have to coordinate their efforts so they are mutually reinforcing. Most of these initiatives have been presented by the Commission in 2010.

- Following the February Council on Competitiveness on manufacturing industry
 - Following up the Communication dated October 28, 2010, entitled “the Communication on “An integrated industrial policy for the globalisation era” and the single Market Act;
 - Following up the EU initiatives on the Fashion Industries and more particularly the dedicated EU action plan to be presented during the EU London Conference on 03rd December 2013 (initiative conducted by DG Enterprise)
 - Capacity Building of the social partners: possible discussion on future projects to enhance the capacity of national social partners in some Member States
 - Anticipating industrial changes: follow-up of the implementation of the nine joint recommendations adopted by EURATEX and IndustriAll in 2011
 - Education and Vocational Training:
 - follow-up of the EU joint project EURATEX–IndustriAll-COTANCE on the implementation and functioning of the new EU Skills Council Textile Clothing Leather-Second year of activities (Nov 2013-Dec 2014)
 - Follow-up of the ESCO- EU Taxonomy on Employment Skills and Competences for Textile Clothing Leather and Footwear (TEXTAN Pilot Prototype) Skills Panorama (existing and potential data on Textile and Clothing) and other eu INITIATIVES
 - Possible other joint EU projects to be discussed- General discussion on the continuous adjustment of vocational training and education to improve the strategy for employment and possible sector skills alliances projects.
 - EU joint Textile and Clothing Code of Conduct and Corporate Social responsibly: follow-up of the proposed EU joint project EURATEX–IndustriAll to develop and validate a widely accepted approach to CSR endorsed by all the different stakeholders through its concrete application (pilot initiatives; definition of application standards and guidelines)
 - Health and Safety issues: Follow-up of the process and the results of the Consumer Product Safety and Market Surveillance Package following the EP vote²
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² <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/summary.do?id=1248847&t=d&l=en>