



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

Employment & Social Governance
Social dialogue

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL CLEANING

9 November 2015
Plenary meeting
Minutes

Chairman: Tim VAN RIE (European Commission)

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The Chairman welcomed the participants. The draft agenda was adopted, with a change in the order of the items (as below).

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting of 27 April 2015

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

3. Joint Declaration in support of the UNI Europa Cleaners' Charter – State of play

Following the invitation by the trade unions to sign a joint declaration in support of the UNI Europa Cleaners charter, the EFCI indicated that it could agree to the draft text, subject to two modifications (replacing 'current practice of awarding cleaning contracts on the basis of lowest price' by 'ongoing practice'; adding 'wherever possible' to 'promotion of daytime cleaning'). The trade unions agreed to these modifications.

While the employers agreed with trade unions on the amended joint declaration supporting the cleaners' charter as such, they expressed concerns that the background document to the charter provides too negative a picture of the sector.

The social partners agreed to continue discussions at secretariat level in view of finding a pragmatic solution on the link between the charter itself and background document, with the aim of adopting a text at the first meeting of 2016.

4. Standardisation

Mr MILANDT (3F, Danish UNI Europa member) provided a presentation on cleaning in Denmark, with a focus on measurement systems and work tempo. The presentation highlighted the distinction between standards based on frequency versus quality or result of cleaning. The presentation provided examples of standards

for cleaning in Danish collective agreements, both in the public and the private sector.

Ms HARVEY (UNI Europa) provided a presentation on the ETUC standardisation action. The presentation covered the framework for standardisation at European level, including regulation 1025/2012 and its provisions regarding societal stakeholders, as well as ETUC actions to strengthen the role of trade unions in standardisation processes at European level.

The social partners welcomed the presentations and exchanged views. Topics of discussion included the Nordic INSTA 800 standard, the challenges of measuring and standardising labour intensive services such as cleaning, as well as the broader concept of quality services in the context of tendering (with a link to point 5 on the agenda).

5. State of play on application for EU funding to update Best Value guide

Mr LILL (EFCI) and Ms HARVEY (UNI EUROPA) provided an update on the proposed project, notably with regard to the timeline and the composition of the steering committee and the working group.

Mr VAN RIE (European Commission) informed the committee of the state of play for the 2015 call for proposals 'support for social dialogue', indicating that information to applicants was expected in November 2015.

6. Report by the European Commission on the Liaison Forum (14 September 2015)

Mr VAN RIE (European Commission) provided a brief overview of topics discussed at the Liaison Forum, including the state of play under the New Start for Social Dialogue, updates on policy initiatives, as well as administrative matters.

7. UNI Europa event on the future of services and the role of social partners

Ms HARVEY (UNI Europa) informed the committee of the UNI Europa seminar on "Shaping the future of the services industry: the all-important role of social partners" in Brussels, 30 November 2015. The aim of the meeting is to discuss which role social partners can play in shaping the services sector, with sessions on the future of services and the anticipation of change, as well as autonomy of social partners and their involvement in EU decision making.

Mr LILL (EFCI) welcomed the invitation to the event and expressed support for the initiative, also in view of strengthening the sectoral aspects of the New Start for Social Dialogue.

Mr VAN RIE (European Commission) welcomed the invitation to event, noting that several Commission officials would participate in the seminar.

8. Update on the Commission proposal to establish a European Platform to fight against undeclared work – report on the state of play of the legislative procedure

Mr LILL (EFCI) provided an update on the legislative process, indicating that the trilogue negotiations were ongoing and that the vote of adoption was scheduled in

early 2016. The social partners recalled their joint positions on the subject, particularly on the involvement of social partners of the cleaning industry in the proposed platform.

9. Any other business

Mr VAN RIE (European Commission) thanked the social partners for the proposed meeting dates for 2016. He indicated that the planning process was ongoing, and that final dates would be confirmed as soon as possible.

Annexes

- Draft minutes of the meeting of 27 April 2015
- Draft "Cleaners Charter: Responsible Contractor Policy for the Cleaning Industry" (UNI Europa)
- "Cleaning in Denmark. Measurement Systems and Work Tempo". (Presentation by Torben Milandt, 3F)
- "The ETUC standardisation action" (Presentation by ETUC)
- "Selecting Best Value Buying Quality Cleaning Services: Joint project application to update the 2003 Best Value Guide" (Presentation by ECFI and UNI Europa)
- "Shaping the future of the services industry: the all-important role of the social partners" (UNI Europa)