



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

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

Brussels, 21 March 2013

Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Professional Football

Minutes of the Working Group Meeting "Implementation of the Autonomous Agreement"

17 December 2012

1. General plan on implementation

The meeting was chaired by Mr Mattias GRAFSTRÖM (UEFA) who explained the general background of this newly established working group related to the implementation of the Autonomous Agreement regarding the Minimum Requirements for Standard Player Contracts. At the beginning of the meeting, participants shortly introduced themselves.

2. Status and planning of kick-off meetings

The CHAIR informed participants about the three kick-off meetings to be planned on 17 January (Croatia, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine and Turkey), 26 February (BG, CY and RO) and 11 March 2013 (CZ, HU, PL and SI). All meetings would be held in Nyon (Switzerland) and the costs for participants would be covered by each of the organisation concerned. The UEFA kindly offered to provide all logistic support, meaning conference room, translation and technical equipment. The UEFA president would in principle be available on these dates. It was concluded to follow a common approach for the three meetings planned. It was also agreed to include a best practice of social dialogue framework at national level to be proposed by EPFL and agreed by the parties (intervention of national social partners of the same country: league and players' union).

3. Content

Participants agreed on the following structure for each meeting starting approximately at 9 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m.: The morning session would include a general presentation of the background of the autonomous agreement by UEFA followed by a presentation of each social partner organisation explaining the benefits of such an agreement from their perspective. The second part would focus on the presentation of the specific points of the agreement. After the lunch break, the session would be continued by highlighting the elements relevant for the implementation and providing participating countries the possibilities to react. A last session would be dedicated to some joint presentations of current examples (e.g. representatives from DK, FR, NL or ES).

It was agreed that the structure would remain the same for all three kick-off meetings, but that adjustments would be possible after having assessed the first meeting. There was also consensus that the kick-off meetings should rather raise the awareness of the

advantages of the new agreement rather than focusing on the specific problems of those countries which do not yet comply with the minimum standards. These issues would be raised at the occasion of country-specific visits organised by UEFA which would follow the kick-off meetings and where FIFA would also be informed.

The contact persons are the following:

- Mads ØLAND (FIFPro)
- Jair BERTONI (EPFL)
- Diederik DEWAELE (ECA)

4. EU project

Mads ØLAND (FIFPro) informed participants about his willingness to prepare the draft project by 1 March 2013 in order to allow discussion and adjustment before submitting it to the Commission (deadline of the call for proposals probably end of March/ beginning of April). The relevant documents would be sent to all parties by mid-February for approval.

Contact persons:

- Jair BERTONI (EPFL)
- David FROMMER¹ (ECA)
- Mattias GRAFSTRÖM (UEFA)

5. Future timetable

The next meeting of this working group will be held on 21 March 2013.

6. Any other business

Norbert SCHÖBEL (DG EMPL) informed participants about the fact that the meeting of third working group on Contract Stability was postponed to next year (21 March 2013) mainly due to the delays of the EU study on the transfer of players.

¹ Designated on 21 March 2013