

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue

Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations

Minutes of the working group of the Social Dialogue Committee for the Construction Sector on "Initial and continuing vocational training" Bruxelles, 15th February 2012

1. Welcome and Introduction

Mr Coillot (EFBWW), who will be the chairman, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants. He reads out the agenda which is adopted.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 10/11/2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2011 are approved unanimously.

3. Presentation of the "Install RES" project

(S. Caneva - WIP - Renewable Energies)

Mrs Caneva presents the project which consists in establishing training courses for trainers and installers of small-scale renewable energy systems in buildings in several European countries (Germany, Poland, Italy, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Greece) and to certify the installers who attended the courses. This project started in May 2010 and will end in 2013 and it is funded by the EU programme "intelligent energy Europe". The training lasts one week during which the trainers are trained. It mainly takes place in laboratories, where practical work is performed. The final objective of the project is the creation of a certification of installers of small scale renewable energy systems as well as qualification of trainers, who have working experience as teachers, engineers and professors in the field of small scale renewable energy systems in buildings, this in order to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy systems (solar thermal, PV, biomass and heat pumps) in buildings.

Mr Rolf Gehring (EFBWW) underlines the quality of the project and indicated that it is important in the context of such project to adapt the training to national situations.

Mr Campogrande (FIEC) mentions the project as being a good example of best practice to be developed in terms of recognition of competences and qualifications.

4. Presentation of the "EuroApprenticeship" project

(L. Volozinskis – UEAPME)

Mrs Volozinski presents the project "EuroApprenticeship" project which funded by ERASMUS as a pilot initiative, and which consists of a Europe-wide web platform for supporting the mobility of apprentices. The project is not a programme directly dedicated to apprentices, since it does not directly provide money for mobility projects and it does not

propose direct placements for young people. But it is a network which provides information and contacts to find the right support and the best adapted solutions for each young people.

The project offers useful tools for bodies and agencies which wants to develop apprenticeship activities, such as a database with fifty practical tools selected from European projects, an "observatory" that gathers and analyses information about qualification systems, a "barometer" reflecting the image companies in Europe have about mobility of apprentices and As well as a database to search for potential partners. It is way to "internationalize" or "Europeanize" companies in the Members states.

5. Social Dialogue Work programme 2012-2015: priorities for "Vocational training" For information and discussion

Mr Rolf Gehring (EFBWW) presented the priorities for the Vocational training working group for 2012-2015. It will focus its activities on the promotion the mutual recognition of qualifications, the anticipation of the future skills needs and the effects of demographic changes. Mr Campogrande (FIEC) and Mr Gehring (EFBWW) indicate that "tutorship", and in particular the update of the joint brochure, could a topic which will be addressed on the WG meeting in October.

The work programme (2012-2015) is available here: (link included)

6. European Skills council "Construction"

Mr Campogrande (FIEC) gave a brief presentation of the State of play of the project. He indicated that the steering committee met already three times and that the draft final report should be discussed in October in order to be delivered at the end of the year. The final conference will take place on 27^{th} November 2012 in Brussels.

7. Prospect for a new Social Dialogue project on vocational training (link between "Bricklayer" and "SQF-CON" projects)

The participants discussed the continuity of both project. It was agreed that the sector should continue to work on the mutual recognition of qualification and mobility. Mr Rolf Gehring (EFBWW) indicates that it is difficult to create a new recognition system at the European level since networks and recognition systems already exists and it is difficult to implement European recommendations at the national and local level. Practically mutual recognition remains difficult, mainly because of the still remarkable differences between the systems and their connotations. Therefore, a follow-up project should focus on the provision on tools that facilitate the comparison of qualifications.

Both partners agreed to continue to present projects on this issue at a later stage but with a bottom up approach and not too "academic".

8. "Euroskills" in Spa Francorchamps 2012

"Euroskills" is a 3 days competition (4-6 October 2012) which will gather more than 450 young people from all over Europe who will compete against each other in more than 40 skills. 40.000 visitors are expected such as policy makers, government representatives, education organizations. Mr Domenico Campogrande (FIEC) indicates, that in the framework of the Euroskills event in SPA – Francorchamps, FIEC will organise a workshop on the 5th of October, in the morning aiming at presenting national best practices for promoting the construction sector towards young people. EFBWW will also be invited to participate in this event for presenting joint initiatives at the social dialogue level, such as, for example, the brochure on "Tutorship".

19. Next meetings schedule

Dates for 2012:

4 October 2012: Working group of the Social Dialogue Committee for the Construction

Sector on "Initial and continuing vocational training"

14 December 2012: Plenary meeting

The chair thanks all the participants and the interpreters and closes the meeting.