

SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR PORTS

PLENARY MEETING 18 OCTOBER 2019

REPORT

Chair: Mr Guy Vankrunkelsven

1. Approval of the draft agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of the minutes of the SSDC Working Group meeting of 12 June 2019

The minutes were adopted.

3. Guidelines on training for port workers on fumigated containers: adoption

The Committee adopted the guidelines and agreed to organise a promotion event early 2020. The members of the Committee agreed that joint efforts will be needed to follow on this first step and will consider developing a joint social partners' project for EU funding to ensure practical implementation of the guidelines. The Committee also requested support of the Commission, including addressing this issue of an international nature at the IMO.

4. The SSDC work programme 2020-2023: discussion

In a constructive discussion the social partners reached an agreement on the focus areas for the 2020-2023 work programme: health and safety (fumigation, accidents, safety on board); skills and training; impact of technological changes on the sector; impact of EU competition and foreign investment policy on the sector. The social partners further discussed deliverables and working methods in relation to these focus areas. The Committee agreed that the work programme will be finalised by the secretariats and presented for approval at the next SSDC meeting.

With regard to safety on board, the social partners expressed disappointment that no further progress has been made due to unavailability of ECSA representatives for an in-depth discussion on possible joint efforts to improve safety on board. They requested the Commission to facilitate their dialogue with ECSA.

5. Any other business

- a. Gilles Bergot, DG MOVE highlighted recent developments: monitoring by the Commission of national set-up for implementation of Regulation (EU) 2017/352 establishing a framework for the provision of port services and common rules on the financial transparency of ports; the High-Level Conference "Towards a more inclusive and diverse transport sector" of 26 September and Digital Transport Days of 7-9 October; as well as on-going studies.

Kristīne Krivmane, DG EMPL informed about commitment of the new Commission to support social dialogue and priorities in the employment and social field, as set in the Political Guidelines.

- b. The calendar of 2020 SSDC meetings will be available by November 2019.