Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee « Footwear » Working Group

Thursday 3rd April 2014 *From 10.30 h to 16.00h*

Borschette Building

DRAFT AGENDA

09.30 hrs Preparatory meetings:

- Workers : from 09.30 to 10.15, meeting room AB-2C with interpretation
- Employers : from 09.30 to 10.15, meeting room AB20 without interpretation

10.30 hrs

- 1. Approval minutes of the plenary meeting of 28th November + Approval of agenda
- 2. Situation in the Footwear sector: recent developments, country developments, main challenges (Ms. Carmen ARIAS, CEC)
- 3. Joint Social Dialogue Project: state of art, next steps (Mr. TRIANGLE, industriAll Europe and Mr. BRUGNOLI, Spin360)
- 12.30 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 hrs

- The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)
 Outcome of recent 4th round held in March 2014 in Brussels (Ms Ivone KAIZELER, Ms Maria Isabel GARCIA CATALAN and Mr Claes HALLBERG, DG TRADE)
- 5. Financial Instruments for SMEs under European Structural Funds (Mr. Aubin BONNET, DG REGIO)
- 6. Loans for TCLF SMEs: what can be done? Banks do not have the capability to evaluate "soft" business' variables issues when granting loans to SMEs, such as the talent of the entrepreneur, knowledge of the technology or the adequacy of the product in the market, etc.
 - a. Example of a best practice guarantee fund in France (Mr.RENAUDIN, President of the French Footwear Federation and of CEC)
 - b. Initiative of creating a sectoral advisory group for bank loans to SMEs (Mr. Laurent ZIBELL, industriAll Europe)
- 7. AOB

16.00 hrs End