



Brussels, 2 December 2013

**SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE
COMMITTEE
INSURANCE**

Minutes of the Steering Group

18th November 2013

The meeting was chaired by Ms Elke Maes (UNI Europa Finance). The agenda and the draft minutes of 25 June Working Group meeting were adopted.

1. The demographic challenge in the insurance sector: follow-up initiatives to the 2012 ISSDC project

As a tour de table on the national initiatives, social partners agreed to have a presentation from Allianz Group from the employers' angle and AXA from the workers at the next Working Group meeting on 9 December.

Reporting on the results of the mapping exercise, all the organizations went through responses received to the questionnaires and listed the list of topics considered as *important* or *very important* by their members. As a next step, secretariats will work between each other, to cross-check countries, from which they didn't receive an answer. It was agreed that a joint presentation of the results will be also prepared for the WG meeting, with a view to also discuss the cases of lack of response.

UNI Europa will, as discussed in previous meetings, provide an outline for a follow up project to be submitted in June 2014, with main activities taking place in 2015, and possibly focusing on CEE countries' active involvement.

Speaking on behalf of the employers' delegation, Mr Hopfner gave an idea of organizing an event, which would increase the visibility of social partners' work; for example on telework. UNI Europa agreed that Telework is seen as part of the bigger subject of demographic change and this could be included in such a project.

2. Telework

With a view to advance the work on the draft telework statement, Ms Maes on behalf of UNI Europa went through a number of suggestions made to the text. The biggest concern of the workers' side was the general tendency throughout the text on the "non-binding" character of the statement. It was discussed how, also with a view of not pre-empting the results of the national negotiations currently on the way in Belgium, to explain and clarify the nature of the statement. As a complement, Insurance Europe proposed to also add the description of follow-

up provisions in the beginning of the statement. It was agreed the wording and the outstanding passages will be discussed further at the next working group meeting. Insurance Europe will provide a new document which includes the changes discussed and UNI Europa is to provide the explanations on the demanded changes. With this background, affiliates on both sides will more easily understand the respective positions and the development of the text. Mr Hopfner stressed that the employers' delegation would need to have an internal clearance of the wording before the text can be adopted.

For the working group meeting on 9 December, the Commission will provide information about the 2008 follow up and implementation process on the social partner framework agreement of 2002 as well as some insight into other sectors' activities in the field of Telework.

3. Any other business

Following Commission's question, social partners clarified that the 2013-2014 work programme was adopted at the meeting on 21 March.

UNI Europa raised the issue of the social partner agreement in the hairdressing sector which has not been considered by the Commission to be passed on to Council within this legislation period. UNI Europa considers that this is an alarming sign of a social partner agreement not being given the significance it should be given according to the Treaty and seeks the employers' side support for a common resolution. It was agreed that this point will be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

At the next meeting, Commission will present the findings of the follow-up report of the cross-industry agreement on telework, as a possible source of inspiration for the work on the joint statement. The calendar of 2014 planned meetings will be also announced.

4. Next meetings:

- Working group on 9 December 2013.