



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change  
**Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations**

Brussels, 3 September 2010

### MINUTES OF THE 25/06/10 WORKING GROUP MEETING OF THE CLEANING INDUSTRY SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE

#### Commission representatives:

Dirk Hadrich	DG EMPL, F1 (Chairperson)
Susan Bird	DG EMPL, D2

#### Those present:

Rachel Owens (EU)	UNI Europa
Dave Godson (UK)	UNISON
Rafael Lopez Gonzales (ES)	AADD CCOO
Luisa Lopez Valencia (ES)	UGT
Catherine Kestelyn (BE)	CG-FGTB
Jonsson Torbjorn (SE)	Fastighets
Michael Haim (AT)	OGB/VIDA
Dominique Fervaille (BE)	FGTB/CSC

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Andreas Lill (EU)	EFCI / FENI
Remi Loison (EU)	EFCI / FENI
Andrew Large (UK)	CSSA
Norma Van den Berg (NL)	OSB
Irena Bartonova Palkova (CZ)	CAC
Steven De Clees (BE)	ABSU-UGBN
Nina Sieber (DE)	BIV
Gianfranco Piseri (IT)	ANCST LEGACOOOP

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Jennifer Shum (BE)	Weber Shandwick
Stephen Bevan (UK)	The Work Foundation

The proposed draft agenda for the meeting was approved.

1. **Presentation on the Fit for Work initiative on chronic muscular-skeletal disorders and labour market participation in Europe**

Stephen Bevan (The Work Foundation) reported on research studies of the Work Foundation (annex 1). He described the MSD problem and presented facts and findings. The aim of the Fit for Work initiative was to improve at the same time the performance of the labour market and the working conditions. He gave recommendations for the stakeholders and invited them to get involved in the initiative and in the September conference.

Social partners discussed the knowledge improvement and other initiatives on MSD over the last years.

Follow-up: Social partners were interested to participate to the Fit for Work conference in September in Brussels and to participate more fully in the future campaign.

2. **Update on project - Improving the European Social Dialogue in the Cleaning Industry Sector: Examination and Renewal (project financed by the European Commission)**

Rachel Owens from UNI Europa updated participants on the project that aims to revive the sectoral social dialogue at European level (annex 2). She referred to the two steering committee meetings in Paris and London and to the available interim reports. More interviews were planned and more replies to the questionnaire (available in EN, FR, DE, ES, IT) would be needed. The draft final report should be prepared by July, the next steering committee meeting is scheduled for 9 September in Brussels and the final conference should take place in Brussels on 29 October.

Follow-up: Affiliates to reply to the questionnaire and to participate to the final conference in Brussels on 29 October 2010.

3. **Update on the state of play from European Commission guide on Social Considerations in Public Procurement**

Susan Bird (DG EMPL) explained that the draft guide on social considerations in public procurement has recently been given to inter-service consultation and could hopefully be published as a Commission staff working document in autumn 2010. She also told the group that a cost benefit assessment study has been launched which should finally lead to model assessments, qualitative judgments and final guidelines by the end of 2010. Finally, she informed the group that DG MARKT would prepare a Communication that should consider all elements of public procurement concerning its coherence. The aims would be to set up a website on public procurement and to evaluate the existing framework of public procurement.

Replying to questions of the social partners Susan Bird confirmed that all people who were consulted on the guide should also be able to comment on the cost benefit

assessment study. The cost benefit assessment would mainly be prepared for regional and local governments. It would be considered to organize training workshops if experienced trainers would be available. Such training workshops could also be helpful to disseminate the cost benefit assessment.

Social partners found it important to keep the model for cost benefit assessment as simple as possible and Susan Bird agreed with this requirement.

Follow-up: Social partners to follow the adoption of the guide and to comment on the cost benefit assessment.

#### **4. Presentation of handling of cleaning contracts within the European Commission**

Due to the unexpected absence of the OIB representative the issue was postponed to the next meeting.

UNI Europa officially expressed its strong disappointment that the OIB representative had failed to attend the meeting and asked for an explanation to be sent to the social partners following the meeting.

#### **5. Presentation by EFCI Dutch member on recently negotiated collective agreement with a view to social partners' initiative on public procurement**

The Dutch employer representative reported on the collective agreement in the cleaning industry that has recently been negotiated in the Netherlands (annex 3). There was a 9 week strike that led to more attention for the industry and wide discussions on fair trade with politicians and customers. Arbitration procedures have been developed to solve discussions between the parties involved.

UNI Europa and EFCI welcomed that more understanding of the price problems has been developed also among the customers.

Follow-up: Social partners to consider further initiatives with the intention to create more understanding for the best value principles.

#### **6. Any other business**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

15 October 2010 (PL)