

## European Social Dialogue – Wood

**Preparatory Meetings - 9.00 to 10.25**

**Plenary Meeting – 22 May 2023, 10:30 to 13:00, Hybrid**

**Participants List to be included as an Annex.**

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### Draft Minutes

Topic	
<p>1. Welcome and opening of the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Adoption of the agenda</li><li>b) Adoption of the minutes 6.02.2023</li><li>c) Minutes of this meeting</li></ul>	<p>CEI-Bois chaired the meeting.</p> <p>The agenda was adopted without changes.</p> <p>Minutes were adapted without changes.</p> <p>It was agreed that since the EC will no longer be assisting with the minutes it will be on the chairing social partner to take the minutes.</p>
<p>2. Measures to tackle labour shortages: Lessons for future policy</p>	<p>Presentation by EUROFOUND.</p> <p>The project started in 2019 and tries to identify where the shortages are and what measures are being taken on national level to address them. In 2022 about 40 policy measures were looked at to see how effective they were. The project focused mainly on the health and ICT sectors, The outcome of the study shows that labour shortages are particularly prevalent in sectors with challenging working conditions, Low levels of investment coupled with the impact of the pandemic and a gender-segregated labour market are contributing to the shortage of workers in sector where the EU's ageing population and workforce is also set to exacerbate these shortages further in the coming years. Further, education infrastructure, greater autonomy over working hours, access to training and career progression and more meaningful work are also important measures to tackle the problem.</p> <p>There is the assumption that the lessons learned could be applied to other sectors such as the woodworking.</p> <p>There are currently case studies happening on how companies address the labour shortages.</p> <p>The power point presentation will be made available to all participants.</p>



<p>c) 2023 European Year of Skills - report expert meeting 13.02.2023 - ongoing actions</p>	<p>can be guided by social dialogue, collective agreements, and forms of worker participation. EFBWW informed that the topic remains very relevant and could be integrated in the SSDC agenda. For example, one important element is bringing together the machinery producer and the users. Digitalisation is an ongoing process, but it is not a linear one, there are different levels to it and grades of using the technology. Conditions also may vary from one country to another. The study is available <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p> <p>A presentation on the ongoing EC Year of Skills activity was done by DG EMPL. It was reminded to social partners that there are various ways to engage, give more visibility and promote the Year of skills.</p> <p>The power point presentation will be shared with participants after the meeting.</p> <p>Social partners discussed a possible follow up on their expert SSDC meeting on Skills, held in February together with EFIC. It was agreed to opt for a joint position paper.</p>
<p>4. Joint project Resilient Wood</p>	<p>The project implementation continues. The Sawmill focus group concluded its data collection part in March 2023 by organising a dedicated focus group.</p> <p>The 3rd project steering group met in April, hosted by EFBWW and set up the calendar for the next step (dedicated workshops). One workshop date remains open, as pending the availability of the Italian consortium partner.</p> <p>The midterm conference is set on 7 September 2023 in Croatia. Official communication will begin as soon as the venue has been confirmed.</p> <p>It was reminded that the mid-term conference will be linked to the 2023 Year of skills initiative and CEI-Bois has prepared a short social media campaign.</p>
<p>5. Occupational Safety and Health a) Wood Dust Prevention</p>	<p>A Taskforce that will work on the revision of the Less Dust brochure has been set up. A first meeting will be called soon. For reminder this is a joint initiative with the furniture sector.</p> <p>EFBWW also informed about the project that focused on comparing the different types of wood dust measurements used. They informed the project has restarted since the pandemic and they might have more results/information to share. Social partners agreed that it would be useful to invite the project partners and dedicate a point during the joint wood and furniture meeting in Autumn 2023.</p>
<p>6. SP Work Program 2024-2027</p>	<p>EFBWW is working on proposing a first draft. Social partners agreed that the structure should be more general to allow flexibility for action. The possibility to opt for a 4-year WP was also raised. There were no oppositions as such, but CEI-Bois proposed that it might be more useful to align the 4 years SP workplan with the new EC and EP.</p>
<p>7. Information point a) representativeness study</p>	<p>The Eurofound representative informed that the first draft has been sent end of April. Social partners had 2 weeks for comments. Following the comments, the draft will be</p>

<p>b) ongoing initiatives of interest for Social Partners</p> <p>c) SSDC revision</p>	<p>corrected, and a final draft will be submitted for a formal written evaluation. The formal written evaluation is expected to take place in June 2023. The report will be published in Q4 2023.</p> <p>EU policy officer, informed on various topics of interest for the SP : EU Talent Pool: Commission proposal planned for Q4 2023; Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Stocktaking Summit, Stockholm 15-16 May - the Summit conclusions available via <a href="#">the following link</a>; Reinforced quality for traineeship initiative; Council recommendations on societal economy initiative; Disability card.</p> <p>EU policy officer updates SPs on the ongoing work. Namely the establishment of SD coordinators. Some have been nominated but not all. Further communication will follow on this as the network of coordinators is established.</p> <p>EFBWW, fully supported by CEI-Bois raised for the record that with regards to the SSDC future management, financing and administration of meetings the whole consultation process with social partners and the Commission remains highly unsatisfactory.</p>
<p>3.7 AOB</p>	<p>SP were informed that in June a new colleague from the Commission will be responsible for the woodworking and furniture sectors.</p>