

EUROPEAN COMMISSION Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

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

Brussels, 12 April 2007

## MINUTES OF THE **02/03/07** WORKING **G**ROUP MEETING OF THE CLEANING INDUSTRY SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE

#### Commission representative and chair: **Dirk HADRICH** DG EMPL, F1 OSHA Tim Tregenza Those present: Fabrice Warneck (EU) UNI-Europa (Industrial Cleaning) Marjolein Oorsprong **UNI-Europa** Kjell Karlsson (SE) Fastighetsanställdas Förbund Lone Korsgaard (DA) 3F Henriette Ölofsen (DA) 3F Johann Suchanek (AT) VIDA Colette Vascon (FR) FDS-CFDT Antoine van den Broeck (BE) ACV \*\*\* Andreas Lill (EU) EFCI / FENI Antonio Colina Robledo (ES) ASPEL Andrew Large (UK) CSSA FEP Antoine Montant (FR) Irena Palkova (CZ) CAC Werner Vermeulen (BE) ABSU-UGBN

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The proposed draft agenda for the meeting was adopted with the new item 3 "Project: Modernisation of work organisation". The former item 3 will be treated in the next meeting. The interpreters informed not to be available between 12h45 and 15h15. Consequently, item 4 of the agenda was moved to the beginning.

### 1. <u>'Health start campaign' of the European Agency for Safety and Health at</u> work

Tim Tregenza (OSHA) presented information about the agencies work in general, the safe start campaign, the lighten the load campaign and the agency's work on cleaners (annex 1).

UNI-Europa welcomed the presentation that highlighted many issues the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee (SSDC) has dealt with. UNI-Europa would be ready to support the agencies objectives and hopes also to benefit from the agency's activities. The question of status of the cleaner should be looked at in broader term.

The EFCI welcomed the presentation and agreed to the main points of information. The EFCI would be as well ready to support the agency's activities and invited OSHA to consult the social partners as well as to disseminate the sectors best value guide and the training guide.

<u>Follow-up</u>: EFCI to send to OSHA the 2006 edition of the statistical survey (data from 2003).

### 2. Joint declaration on daytime cleaning

a) Dirk Hadrich informed the working group that the following statistical data have been identified by the contractor of the Office for Infrastructure and Logistics in Brussels (OIB):

Number of employees: 562 Full time workers: 34% Ratio: 58% men, 42% women.

EFCI found the percentage of full time workers quite high.

UNI-Europa explained not to be convinced about good and satisfying working conditions for the cleaners of the Commission buildings. The Commission would have to check better the social dimension and less the price when selecting the cleaning contractors. Against this background UNI-Europa wrote a letter to the Commission's president with the intention to draw his attention to daytime cleaning and to a proper best value selection of cleaning contractors.

The Belgian EFCI member informed the participants that his association has sent a letter to the OIB in the beginning of January 2007 with a copy of the existing collective agreement for the Belgian cleaning market and other social labour information. Finally, the OIB has been asked to carefully check offers that might be only based on the lowest price criterion.

<u>Follow-up</u>: Meeting of UNI-Europa with the Commission services to discuss the selection procedure. EFCI would be invited to take part as well.

b) Information was provided concerning the recently adopted joint declaration of the European Social Partners on daytime cleaning.

Social Partners decided to bring the adopted declaration to the attention of the Social Summit as contribution in the framework of the flexicurity debate.

<u>Follow-up</u>: Social Partners to send the declaration as contribution on flexicurity to the Social Summit.

c) EFCI asked the Commission services to prepare a general presentation on flexicurity for the next SSDC working group meeting on 25 June 2007 as it has been done in many other SSDC's.

Dirk Hadrich said that this idea will be brought to the attention of the responsible colleagues in the Commission. However, a Commission presentation would depend on the state of developments and could only be confirmed in May.

EFCI and UNI-Europa agreed to have a Commission presentation on flexicurity. This would be a good opportunity to inform the social partners on the stage of reflection within the Commission.

<u>Follow-up</u>: Commission to consider a presentation on flexicurity for the meeting on 25 June.

d) A presentation was given by the British EFCI member on daytime cleaning experience in the London area (annex 2). It was explained that 70% of the work in the London area is managed by 10 contractors and that a large percentage of the workforce doesn't change the job frequently. The shift to more daytime work and to less price mentality would have resulted in productivity gains. Training, investments in staff and career attractions for young people would be significantly important.

UNI-Europa pointed to strong social conflicts in the London area and to the insufficient recognition of trade unions.

EFCI explained there would be some participation of unions in the London area and this would further improve in future. The pathway card would be very useful for other contractors to judge the competencies of an employee.

# 3. <u>Update on the translations of the ergonomics guide by affiliates and discussion on final draft document</u>

It was confirmed that the following versions have been prepared: EN, FR, DE, DA. The layout of the Danish has to be brought in line with the three other language versions.

<u>Follow-up</u>: EFCI has to circulate the photos to finalise the guide.

### 4. <u>Discussion on the elaboration of a compendium of best practices of local /</u> <u>national experiences in the sector</u>

Best practices initiatives have been identified and collected from France, Belgium and Italy. A Czech and Danish initiative was announced and will be presented in the next meeting. Social Partners invited all members to submit any initiative.

<u>Follow-up</u>: Social Partners to write to members and to ask informally if there would be any other initiatives. Czech and Danish members to prepare a presentation for the next meeting.

# 5. Project "Modernisation of work organisation"

UNI-Europa informed about a project submitted to DG EMPL for funding. The objective would be to get an overview on legal rules and collective agreements existing in the two sectors "Cleaning Industry" and "Private Security". For each of the two sectors there should be a separate documentation and case studies. The SSDC would have to advice the consultant continuously. The project would go over 12 months.

Dirk Hadrich informed the social partners that a response to the request for funding should be received in May 2007

### 6. <u>Any other business</u>

Information was provided concerning the UK initiative "EU skills competition" that should be established for the cleaning sector in 2008 and that could be extended to a world skills competition.

A model for 'rules of procedure' will be sent soon by the Commission to the secretariats in order to finalise, to agree and to adopt this for the SSDC Cleaning Industry.

EFCI will follow up on the work done by UNI-Europa on the list of joint documents to be adopted by the SSDC.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

25 June 2007 (WG) 15 October 2007 (PL)

The annexes can be downloaded from the SSDC Cleaning Industry archive: <u>http://ec.europa.eu/employment\_social/social\_dialogue/sectorial12\_en.htm</u>