



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue  
**Social dialogue, Industrial Relations**

Brussels, 8 October 2012

**SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE MEETING  
PRIVATE SECURITY**

**J-54 00/124  
2 OCTOBER 2012**

**MINUTES**

**Participants:**

Employer representatives

Mr Eduardo Cobas Urcelay, APROSER, Spain  
Ms Hilde De Clerck, CoESS, Belgium  
Mr Claude Lévy, SNES, France

Employee representatives

Ms Laila Castaldo, UNI Europa, Belgium  
Mr Luc De Valck, ACV-CSC, Belgium  
Mr David Gigg, GMB, United Kingdom

European Commission

Mr Murad Wiśniewski, DG EMPL, Belgium (in the chair)

The proposed draft agenda was approved.

## **1. Revision of the EU public procurement directives**

CoESS and UNI Europa reported separate lobbying activities, following their joint opinion on the public procurement directive of 25 May 2012, and expressed their satisfaction with the amendments tabled in the European Parliament as a result. Both sides have hitherto been focusing their activities on the European Parliament, as the Council could be approached more effectively at national level. Mr Eduardo Cobas Urcelay informed the committee that CoESS would send a message to its national affiliates the following week to lobby on this topic. Like the message to the European Parliament, this message would be focused on criteria for awarding contracts not exclusively based on price and respect for national collective agreements. Too long a message would risk being less focused, Ms Hilde De Clerck warned. Mr Cobas Urcelay expressed his concern about the Council's competitiveness report in this respect. There was agreement with Ms Laila Castaldo that joint lobbying by CoESS and UNI affiliates had already taken place in Belgium and Spain but that social partners at European level would continue to appeal to national members to lobby their government in view of the discussion taking place in the Council.

Meanwhile, a network on sustainable procurement had been created, following the pluri-sectoral joint opinion, signed together with the social partners in the catering and industrial cleaning sectors after the last SSDC meeting. However, efforts to influence cross-sectoral social partner organisations on this basis had been largely unsuccessful. Ms De Clerck expressed that CoESS did not agree with BusinessEurope statements on the public procurement revision process.. Mr Cobas Urcelay reported to have blocked one position at a recent employers' meeting, which would have been in contradiction to the joint opinion, but this was the maximum he could achieve. Ms Castaldo also reported that the ETUC strongly opposed the joint paper

## **2. New and upcoming Commission initiatives**

The chairman informed the committee that developments on the directive on musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) had stalled and could not be communicated to the public at present. All options were open at this point, including an abandonment of legislative action on this issue. At the request of UNI Europa, the chairman would continue to follow the issue and inform the committee on any developments until the next SSDC meeting.

At the request of CoESS, both sides agreed to put the regulation on the professional cross-border transport of euro cash by road between euro-area member states (CIT), which was to enter into force on 30 November 2012, on the agenda of the next meeting. A representative of DG ECFIN would be invited to inform the SSDC on this matter.

The chairman also informed the committee that there had been developments on the white paper on pensions and the green paper on restructuring and anticipation of change at DG EMPL. However, these two initiatives were deemed less relevant for the private security sector.

## **3. Projects**

Mr Cobas Urcelay reported to have spoken to the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) about the Online interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA) tool project the day before. A solution regarding the formal requirements of the project was now on the table and would be further discussed with EU-OSHA. Meanwhile, the chairman informed the committee of his recent communication with UNI Europa regarding the problem of full-time union representatives in Spain who formally remained on the payroll of their companies and whose work could, therefore, not be regarded as own contributions by their unions for the purposes of a

project, because they were not formally employed by their respective unions. In order to avoid any possible discrimination of Spanish unions on the basis of this arrangement being typical for the industrial relation system in Spain, the chairman would raise this issue with his hierarchy to see if a possible derogation from the general rule could be envisaged in this case.

Ms De Clerck reported a project on the recognition of professional qualifications in the private security sector, which had been financed by DG EAC. CoESS affiliates from Slovenia and Ireland had participated in the project, although the Irish one is no longer a member of CoESS, together with UNI affiliates from Germany and Spain. While UNI Europa was not aware of the results, CoESS had seen parts of them and criticised their perceived lack of quality and usefulness for the sector. Ms De Clerck also raised questions about the evaluation of this project by DG EAC. Both sides decided to invite the project manager to present the results at the next SSDC plenary meeting and to provide written material beforehand. This would enable an appropriate assessment of the project and a possible reaction to it.

#### **4. Representativeness study by EUROFOUND**

The new study on the representativeness of the social partners by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EUROFOUND) was received with some criticism. It was decided to discuss it at the next plenary meeting of the SSDC, but not to invite EUROFOUND for a presentation of the study.

#### **5. Any other business**

Ms De Clerck reported the planned internalisation of security services at the European Parliament, which concerned its workplaces in France, Belgium and Luxembourg. While acknowledging Parliament's right to decide on the internalisation or out-sourcing of its services, she criticised the fact that the staff concerned would not be automatically taken over, as would be required under Belgian law. Mr Luc De Valck endorsed this point, criticising that current staff would have to undergo the same recruitment procedure as external applicants. There was general condemnation of this situation with interventions by Mr Cobas Urcelay, Ms Castaldo and Mr David Gigg. It was decided to discuss this issue with the national affiliates concerned and to prepare a joint statement with a view to be adopted at the plenary meeting of the SSDC. The chairman was requested to enquire whether any similar moves were planned at the Commission.

The chairman informed the committee of the new rules for SSDC meetings from 2013, which had been communicated to all European social partners at the liaison forum held on 1 October 2012. On the basis of these new rules, which were also to be sent by DG EMPL to all European social partners in writing in the following days, the SSDC meetings in 2013 were determined to be held on 22 February, 6 June and 8 October (working groups), and 10 December (plenary).