



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG
Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue
Social dialogue, Industrial Relations

SECTORAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE CONTRACT CATERING

Minutes of the steering committee meeting

6 February 2013

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the Steering Committee of 20 June 2012

The draft minutes of steering group meeting on 20th of June 2012 will be reviewed by participants via email.

3. Finalisation of the work programme 2013 and its implementation

On possible joint public procurement initiative: Ms Freitas da Costa (FERCO) updated the participants on the current state of play. The proposal is foreseen to be voted in the EP Plenary session on 10 September 2013, but this date will be confirmed on 21 of February, when the EP IMCO will vote on whether to start a *trilogue* (EP, Council, EC). According to FERCO information, the Council would like to have the proposal approved during the Irish presidency. However, the difficulty lies in the fact that there are three documents at the table, with concessions being the most controversial one. FERCO proposed to discuss the possibility of social partners' joint initiative and eventually update previous joint position paper in the following weeks. EFFAT agreed, and stressed the need to continue promoting the guide, while keeping an eye on further development.

On the online food hygiene training tool: FERCO reported that the tool available in the EFFAT/FERCO joint website no longer offers a paid certificate. The tool, however is also disseminated through developer's website, although it is ensured that the logo of EFFAT, FERCO and the European Commission do not appear therein. Ms Howald (EFFAT) stressed that EFFAT continues disseminating the tool among the organization's members. She mentioned that a good example of dissemination of the tool was it being launched in Hungary. In Austria the trade unions wanted to launch it, but didn't have a counterpart organization. EFFAT also asked to have the statistics on the online tool outreach and it was agreed FERCO present this information in the next steering committee meeting.

On revision of the CSR agreement: FERCO proposed updating a number of elements of the agreement (notably the definition, list of UN initiatives, non-financial reporting and treatment of disabled workers) in line with the new Commission's communication, but also to get more buy-in. EFFAT also agreed to update the references of the agreement and proposed that other issues (e.g. active ageing, demographic challenges) and transforming the case studies into best practices' report could be looked into. EFFAT suggested that a way to enhance the implementation of the CSR agreement would be to arrange for reporting to the plenary meeting centred in one topic. All delegations would be asked to prepare a report on the basis of questionnaire circulated in advance. A first topic suggested was gender equality. . It was agreed that for the next steering committee meeting EFFAT would prepare a first draft set of questions for reporting on gender equality and that FERCO would prepare a draft revised CSR agreement.

4. Preparation of the SDC plenary meeting on 7 October 2013

Both sides agreed to deal with the gender equality issues at the upcoming plenary session, in the context of implementation of CSR agreement as mentioned above. For the next steering committee meeting DG EMPL will gather some information on the Commission's proposal for women in the governing boards of companies.

FERCO informed about the on-going review of the Obesity Strategy and changes to the platform are yet to be seen. Ms Freitas da Costa proposed to have a presentation of DG SANCO on this issue during the plenary meeting.

5. Any other business

Ms Lesage informed the participants about the Commission setting up a platform on undeclared work, envisaged primarily as an information exchange structure for Member States. FERCO said they would consult with their member organisations whether this is an issue in contract catering, and EFFAT mentioned that it is an important issue for the sector, especially in some Member States.

Following a discussion on legal problems with liability for accidents at the work place, the social partners asked the Commission how they could be involved with the current work on the new EU Health & Safety Strategy.

EFFAT representative reported briefly on the experience as a member of the reference group for the ESCO (European Skills/Competences, qualifications and Occupations) taxonomy, which is proving to be a complicated exercise. The social partners briefly discussed possible joint projects, e.g. on the further promotion of the online training tool or on capacity building, and agreed that further considerations are necessary.

Ms Lesage announced that it will be her last meeting with the committee. She thanked the social partners and introduced Ms Winiarska, who will replace her in the role of dealing with their dialogue.