



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

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

**Minutes of the working group of the
Social Dialogue Committee for the Construction Sector
on "Initial and continuing vocational training"
Brussels, 19.05.2006**

I. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 20.09.2005

II. Key skills in continuing training

The social partners took note of the presentation of the European Parliament report, EMPL/6/31797, on vocational training and the initiatives taken in this field in Europe. It comprised a list of the basic skills needed for working life with a view to a proposal for a recommendation from Parliament to the Commission and the Member States.

This was a document which should be read and kept for reference, particularly its Annex listing basic skills. However, the eight basic skills listed could not reflect the diversity of jobs and occupations which existed in the construction industry.

In the EFBWW's opinion, therefore, this text was a useful guideline but should be examined with care.

III. Improving health and safety at work

Presentation by Laetitia Passot of the progress report on the European project ENETOSCH, which was funded by the European Commission's Leonardo da Vinci programme.

This project was designed to create networks of trainers in health and safety and promote the sharing of experiences, best practice and training modules. The social partners had undertaken to discuss results and take part in meetings of the Advisory Committee, the first of which had been held in Dresden in March 2006. The FIEC and the EFBWW were members of the Advisory Committee.

The EFBWW was surprised not to have received an invitation. Laetitia Passot observed that this project had been launched one year ago when the person in charge had given a presentation on it.

IV. SAFE START campaign

This campaign, which was designed to promote health and safety among young people, was to be launched by the Bilbao Agency in June 2006.

The "European Week" on this theme would be held in October. The social partners agreed to ask the secretariats to reflect on possible ways of being actively involved in this event, such as measures to raise awareness in schools.

It was important to promote the sector's image with a view to attracting young people, and to take into account the pace of technological development and the changing nature of occupations, which created the need for new health and safety training for young people.

V. FIEC/EFBWW project on the recognition of qualifications for the trade of mason

The project was not making any progress with regard to recognition of a European profile for this trade. The EFBWW was in charge of this project.

VI. Commission consultation on the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (EQF)

The Commission had issued a call for proposals to test its proposal for a European Qualifications Framework, the deadline for which had expired on 8 August 2006. This was a meta-framework enabling the various Member States to draw up common correlation tables for the recognition of skills, based on eight different levels.

Following discussions, the social partners decided to ask the secretariats to come to an agreement on submitting a joint project to the Commission in response to this call for proposals.

The secretariats would also consider the possibility of twinning this project with the project on the recognition of qualifications for the trade of mason, as these projects shared some common features.

The EFBWW pointed out that these initiatives should not be reduced to the aspect of worker mobility only.

VII. European Parliament Report on the EQF

The social partners stated that the deadline for amendments to this report had now passed.

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