



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

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

29 May 2012

**MINUTES OF THE 01/02/2012 WORKING GROUP MEETING OF
THE TANNING AND LEATHER SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE**

Those present:

Trade union representatives:

1. Ms Paula Alves (ES), FITAG-UGT
2. Mr Claudio Belloni (IT), FEMCA
3. Mr Joël Gallice (FR), Fédé. CGT THC
4. Ms Diana Junquera, (ES), FITAG-UGT
5. Mr Gerald Kreuzer (AT), Pro-Ge
6. Mr Luc Triangle, (EU) FSE :THC,
7. Mr Lajos Zöldi (HU), BDSZ

Employers' representatives:

1. Mr Luca Boltri (IT), UNIC
2. Mr Gustavo Gonzalez-Quijano (EU), COTANCE
3. Mr András Kocsis (HU), BCE
4. Mr Paul Pearson (UK), UKLF
5. Mr Serge Ramière (FR), FFTM
6. Mr Reinhard Schneider (DE) VDL

European Commission:

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion:

Ms Nataša Kokić

DG Environment:

Mr Keir McAndrew
Mr Michele Galatola

External experts:

Ms Catherine Ganzleben, Milieu LTD

1. Approval of the draft minutes of the last two meetings and of the draft agenda

The draft minutes of the last two meetings and the draft agenda have been adopted.

2. Update on the development measurement of the Environmental Footprint of products (DG ENV, Mr Michele Galatola)

Mr Michele Galatola (DG ENV) gave an update on the development measurement of the Environmental Footprint of products. His presentation is attached.

This is an important and interesting issue for social partners. As regards the consultations with social partners, a meeting between social partners and Mr Galatola is envisaged for July 2012.

3. Tour de Table on social and economic developments in the leather sector at national level

Social partners gave an overview of developments in the leather sector at the national level. Taking into consideration the overall economic situation, it is also reflected in leather sector. Situation is rather difficult in some countries (Romania, Hungary).

4. Implementation of the new Industrial emissions Directive (DG ENV, Mr Keir McAndrew)

Mr Keir Mc Andrew presented the implementation of the new Industrial emissions Directive. His presentation is attached.

This is an issue that needs to be closely followed by social partners.

5. Presentation of the study analysing the health, environmental and socio economic impacts of a possible amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risk related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work to extend the scope to include category 1A and 1B reprotoxins (Ms Catherine Ganzleben, consultancy Milieu LTD);

Ms Catherine Ganzleben made a presentation on this study. The impact assessment is ongoing. Social partners are asked to fill in the questionnaire and to send it back to Milieu LTD in 2 weeks. A colleague from DG EMPL (Unit B3 - Health, Safety and Hygiene at Work) might also attend the next meeting as this unit is coordinating the study.

5. DG EMPL 2012 Work Programme (DG EMPL, Ms Natasa Kotic)

Ms Natasa Kotic (DG EMPL) made a presentation on EC work programme with particular emphasise on Employment and social inclusion. This presentation is attached.

6. Projects

Social partners presented the state of play of projects:

a. OIRA

This project is slowly progressing. First proposal should be ready in March. As regards the meeting between the experts – the interpretation will be provided. The tool will be initially in English. A meeting will be held on 30 May (just after the next SSDC).

b. Skill councils

The final conference of the first part of this project has been organised on 6 December 2011. First year of activities of European Skills Council will be supported financially by DG EMPL. Social partners underlined a very good experience with the consultant working on this project.

c. Climate Change

This project finished end of January 2012. It dealt with the impact of the climate change on the textile sector with the leather sector. A round table has been organized on 10 January 2012 where the experts from Euratex, Cotance and ETUF-TCL have met to discuss a draft report. The final conference was held on 26 January 2012.

d. Transparency

This project is in preparatory phase. Translations of the questionnaire from all MS have been received. Trade unions are preparing the briefs that are expected by the mid March. The event will take place in Barcelona on 6/7 June.

e. Social & Environmental Reporting III

This project has started. Consultants should be appointed shortly. The final event will take place in Romania.

7. The next working group meeting will take place on 29 May 2012.