

Work Program 2007 – 2008

Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee “Temporary Work”

Name of the Committee

Uni-Europa and Eurociett, together with their affiliates (the European social partners) will undertake the necessary steps with the European Commission to change the name of the Committee. The word “agency” will be added in some form to the name, in order to distinguish the sector’s activities from other forms of employment.

Flexicurity

The European social partners wish to participate in the debate on “flexicurity” initiated by the EU Commission and will try to formulate joint answers. The debate will include a discussion on the role of the Social Partners in this matter. If possible a joint document on this topic will be issued.

Training

The European social partners will focus on facilitating access to vocational training of temporary agency workers. They will identify the state of play in the EU, assess best practices and work together in order to find a way to promote them. The discussion will also address the issue of diploma recognition in cross-border assignments, taking into consideration the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

Decent work, non-discrimination and equal treatment

A compendium of best practices and measures will be issued on the basis of the contributions of Uni-Europa and Eurociett affiliates in the following fields: a) particular attention to fight discrimination in general and to promote equal opportunities for all, b) to tackle undeclared work and unfair competition, c) work migration and the posting of migrant agency workers in relation to the EU regulation (a special attention will focus on the implementation of the Posting of Workers Directive). On the basis of the result, the European social partners will define a communication strategy at all levels.

In parallel, the European social partners will seek to identify the means of promoting the ratification of the ILO convention n° 181 on Private Employment Agencies by more EU members states.

Promoting National Social Dialogue

The European social partners envisage holding one or two round tables in the year 2007 in new member states or candidate countries. These round tables will be organized in cooperation with TAIEX and will have as their aim to establish and/or improve national social dialogue in the sector and to promote the European social dialogue as part of the social “acquis communautaires”.

Research & Projects

The European social partners will invite the Dublin Foundation to continue their study on the temporary agency work sector. The Social Partners will communicate to the Dublin Foundation specific information and recommendations in order to contribute to its investigations on issues such as:

- vocational training,
- the stepping stone function of agency work,
- access to credit and housing (living conditions)
- access to complementary health care and pension schemes,
- enforcement of the law and sanctions against unfair competition,

- the role and contribution of social partners in defining national regulatory framework (national collective agreements).

If financial support is given by the EU Commission, the issue of work mobility will be a subject for a research project under the control of the European social partners and executed by jointly identified external experts.

Sectoral developments

The European social partners will closely follow up the developments of the European policies and legislations with regard to their impact on the sector. If necessary, the European social partners will decide to initiate new activities linked to these developments.

Review

This work program will be reviewed by the plenary meeting of the social dialogue Committee of 2007 in order to be updated if necessary for 2008.