



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

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"  
Bruxelles, 11 February 2010**

Mr Coillot (EFBWW), the chairman of this meeting, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants.

He reads out the agenda which is adopted.

### **1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 02/10/2009**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2009 are approved unanimously.

### **2) Presentation of a project on "Comparability between EU countries of sectoral qualifications in construction"**

Mr V. Tütlys (Centre for Vocational Education and Research in Kaunas-LT) presents a project concerning the comparability of sectoral qualifications (including construction) in Austria, the Czech Republic, France, Ireland and Lithuania.

The presentation can be downloaded at:

[http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral\\_social\\_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102\\_arbeitsgruppe/cons\\_20100211\\_enpdf/EN\\_1.0\\_&a=d](http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102_arbeitsgruppe/cons_20100211_enpdf/EN_1.0_&a=d)

In answering questions, Mr Tütlys points out that it is helpful to define national differences in order to overcome differences in the sector. Differences in different countries, e.g. the need for practical training, have been considered in the project, but not in detail. The EQF has been used as a basis for comparing different qualifications. The project does not intend to make proposals for a new version of the EQF. Mr Tütlys provides copies of the final report of the SECCOMPAT project to the participants.

It is stated that it would be useful to discuss in-depth the national comparison, the sectoral qualification framework and the EQF. The chair insists upon the need for different language versions of the studies. This would help to make more use of these studies.

Item 4 is moved before item 3.

#### **4) Joint EFBWW-FIEC Bricklayer project**

Ms Linda Clark, University of Westminster, was not able to attend the meeting.

Mr Gehring (EFBWW) and Mr Campogrande (FIEC) give a short overview about the current situation:

In the framework of this Leonardo-da-Vinci project eight national reports have been established and presented. The next step is to focus on practical questions. The synthesis report will compare the different systems and present the conclusions, what is comparable, what is not.

An interim report was requested by the Commission services. It will be evaluated and, depending on this evaluation, either the whole amount will be paid or only part of it. After this exercise, in-depth national reports will be carried out, each one with two countries working together.

Ms Repellin (FFB-FIEC) insists upon the necessity to make sure that input/comments provided by all the concerned stakeholders are effectively taken into account in the final versions of the reports. Mr Gehring (EFBWW) and Mr Campogrande (FIEC) confirm that it is still possible to adapt the national reports. Being a project of the social partners, it is important that their views are adequately presented.

The next meetings of the consortium will take place in Brussels on 19/20 May, 22/23 September and 25 October. The final conference is scheduled for 26 November 2010.

It is agreed to invite the authors to the SSDC plenary meeting.

#### **3) Presentation on "Restructuring forum – Sectors' New Skills for New Jobs"**

- exchange of views

Mr Lebrun (European Commission, DG EMPL F3) presents two series of slides which can be downloaded at:

Sectors' New Skills for New Jobs:

[http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral\\_social\\_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102\\_arbeitsgruppe/20100211\\_skills/ EN 1.0 &a=d](http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102_arbeitsgruppe/20100211_skills/ EN 1.0 &a=d)

European Sector Councils on Jobs and Skills:

[http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral\\_social\\_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102\\_arbeitsgruppe/cons\\_20100211\\_enpdf\\_1/ EN 1.0 &a=d](http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/construction/2010/20101102_arbeitsgruppe/cons_20100211_enpdf_1/ EN 1.0 &a=d)

DG Employment has carried out 18 prospective sectoral studies on employment and qualifications and DG Enterprise 1 study. The presentation of the results did take place on 7/8 December 2009.

In answering questions on "European sectoral councils", Mr Lebrun points out that it is not planned to create a European "super-structure" and that these sectoral councils would be set up only upon an initiative of the concerned social partners and not of the Commission; the idea is to link national observatories to exchange information and to analyze the main trends concerning jobs and qualifications among the different Member States. The social dialogue

and the observatories are clearly different: The social dialogue takes place between the social partners, the observatories are supplementary tools to help the social partners.

National authorities can benefit from this exchange, as well as the social partners.

EFBWW and FIEC point out that there had probably been a lack of communication regarding these sectoral councils, which were considered to be overlapping issues that are on the agenda of the social partners. They thank Mr Lebrun for having clarified things with his presentation.

## **5) Possible joint project on "Attracting young people into the construction industry"**

Exchange of views

FIEC proposes to create a joint website with presentations from the Member States concerning national initiatives/campaigns aiming at improving the image of the sector.

Ms Repellin and Mr Lair (FFB-FIEC) explain that in France the problem is not just to attract young people to the sector, but to keep them.

FIEC will present a more detailed description of the project at the next plenary meeting.

Mr Weitig (IG Bau- EFBWW) reports on the German situation. In order to improve the image of the craftsmen, a big campaign of about 50 millions € is being started and financed by the "Handwerkskammern". Mr Garstka (HDB-FIEC) insists upon the need for many partners and an adequate financial support to achieve a sustainable improvement of the image of the sector.

## **6) Miscellaneous: -**

### **7) Next meetings:**

The next working group meeting will take place on 25 November 2010 in the afternoon with the respective preparatory meetings in the morning.

The "Bricklayer" Conference will take place on 26 November in Brussels.

The chair thanks all the participants and closes the meeting.