

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE SUGAR SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE FOR 2012

Future of the EU sugar regime and social consequences

In the context of the current sugar regime, the social partners will continue to follow up with attention the management of the sugar market by the Commission as well as any initiative which could have a social impact, in particular regarding employment.

Regarding the recent Commission proposal on the future of the CAP post 2013 and in particular on the future of the sugar regime, they will be particularly attentive to the potential consequences of this initiative on employment and on possible further restructuring. They will ensure mutual information and take any joint action judged helpful.

Corporate Social responsibility in the European sugar industry

The ninth implementation report of the corporate social responsibility Code of Conduct for the year 2011 is planned to be presented at the plenary session of the sugar sectoral committee on Tuesday 28 February 2012:

- political and economic context;
- corporate management of the restructuring and economic crisis
- Code of Conduct implementation.

All the elements of the report as well as the conclusions of the joint plenary meeting will be introduced on the website www.eurosugar.org after the meeting.

Assessment of the sugar Code of Conduct in the light of ISO 26 000 and the new UN Business Human Rights Framework

The European social partners committed to assess the CSR Code of Conduct in the sugar industry in the light of the recently adopted ISO 26 000 Guidance and the new UN Human Rights framework. They will also consider the Commission Communication on CSR published 25.10.2011. They intend to issue a Joint Declaration confirming the current outcome of their works. The detailed assessment and the Joint Declaration will be presented at the next plenary meeting planned 28 February 2012.

Major external/internal challenges facing the European sugar industry

The social partners will continue to assess the developments related to the international trade commitments of the European Union which could influence the European sugar industry competitiveness, as well as the developments related to any other EU policy which could have a social impact. They will produce joint positions, joint letters, concerted replies to Commission impact assessments, or conduct concerted action as needed (Bilateral, regional, multilateral agreements, revision of preferential rules of origin, non quota exports, environmental food prints, food taxation measures...)

Any other business

Notwithstanding the commitment of CEFS and EFFAT to have this year again a focus on the priorities of their work programme, they agree that unforeseen topical issues may request their collaboration.