

**Conference:
European Social Dialogue –Working**



**29-30 November 2007
Lisbon**

Provisional draft programme

Thursday November 29

Opening Session of the Conference

14.00 *Introduction:* Nikolaus van der Pas, Director General

14.20 *Keynote speech:* José António Vieira da Silva, Minister of Labour, Portugal

14.40 Master of Ceremonies (*Cathy Smith*)

Video – A short history of European Social Dialogue

14.50 *Presentation:* **New Dynamics of Social Dialogue**

Suggestion: Maria João Rodrigues or Jelle Visser

15.10 *Conclusion* by Master of Ceremonies (including link to the workshops following the break)

15.15 Break

15.30-17.00: *Theme 1:*

European social dialogue – creating added value for workers and management:

This series of workshops will be based on the real experiences of social partners in using the different frameworks to implement agreements.

Workshop 1: The Part-Time Work Agreement – a classical directive?

The aim of this workshop is to examine the practical way in which this agreement has actually been translated into concrete action in the workplace, including its interpretation and how Social Partners can be consulted on its interpretation. What has it changed for workers and companies? What are the advantages and disadvantages of this method; problems faced, solutions found?

Chair: EU government representative

Speaker 1: European Court of Justice

Speaker 2: Maria Helena André, Deputy General Secretary, ETUC (tbc)

Speaker 3: SP representative (national, employers)

Speaker 4: Company case – Rentokill, UK

Workshop 2: Added value through more interaction – new follow-up mechanisms

Using the sectoral agreement on crystalline silica (2005) as well as the cross-industry Framework of action on lifelong learning (2002) as examples, this workshop will examine how recent social dialogue outcomes with specific mechanisms for implementation and follow-up have had an impact on companies and workers.

Chair: EU Member State / researcher ?

Speaker 1: Michelle Wyart (IMA Europe)

Speaker 2: Company case (crystalline silica) – *consult signatories*

Speaker 3: Petri Lempinen, ETUC/STTK, Finland

Speaker 4: Juan Menéndez-Valdés, CEOE, Spain

17.00-18.00 *Plenary Session* (Animation by the Master of Ceremonies)

17.00-17.15 *Keynote speech:* Ernest Antoine Seillière, President of BUSINESSSEUROPE (tbc)

17.15-17.30 *Reporting back from the workshops*

Rapporteur 1:

Rapporteur 2:

17.30-18.00 *Comments from the day by:*

John Monks, General Secretary, ETUC (tbc)

Philippe de Buck, Secretary-General, BUSINESSSEUROPE (tbc)

Friday November 30

9.00 *Video message* with a non-EU political figure on the role of Social Dialogue in Europe as seen from outside.

Proposal: Joseph Stiglitz; Columbia University / Amartya Sen, Harvard University;

9.15 *Keynote speech* Wanja Lundby-Wedin, President, ETUC (tbc)

9.30 *Theme 2:*

The Telework Agreement – illustrating the maturity of European social dialogue

Video on telework agreement

Examples of how the autonomous agreement on telework has triggered action by social partners and affected/changed work organisation and practices

Chair: Jelle Visser, Professor, University of Amsterdam

- Jørgen Rønne, BUSINESSEUROPE / DA (Danish employers)
- NN (management and employees), Renault, France – company agreement
- Donata Gottardi, MEP, Lecturer of labour law, Università di Verona (tbc)
- NN, Polish government – cooperation with social partners
- NN, VKA (German member of CEEP) – model agreement on telework
- NN, Swedish trade union – sectoral agreements in Sweden

The impact of the telework agreement through different mechanisms.

11.00 Break

11.30 *Theme 3:*

From Brussels to the shop floor – Communicating the Social Dialogue

Workshop 3: Social partners as multipliers: the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All

This workshop will examine how the social partners can translate policy decisions on social issues affecting the workplace into real action. It will discuss the methods and achievements of the social partners in combating discrimination in the areas of gender, race, and disability in the workplace and whether this has an impact in society as a whole.

Chair: Jan Andersson, MEP, Chairman of the EMPL Committee (tbc)

Speaker 1:

Speaker 2: *handicapped?*

Speaker 3: Rainer Plassmann / Tina Weber, Equally Diverse project, CEEP

Speaker 4: Neste Oil Corporation, FIN or Nordea Poland Life Insurance or Provident

Workshop 4: Capacity-building for Social Partners: integrated programmes and the ESF

The Workshop will discuss how existing experiences of integrated programmes could serve as examples for future action in this area. The aim will be to encourage social partners in eligible areas to build on these experiences to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the ESF in this area. It will build on the experiences of the textiles and cross-industry integrated programmes.

Chair: Maria Ladò (gov, HU)
Speaker 1: Patrick Itschert, Secretary-General, FSE-THC
Speaker 2: Heike Suomalainen, EK (employers), Finland
Speaker 3: Liliane Volozinskis, Social Affairs Director, UEAPME (tbc)
Speaker 4: Lithuanian social partners (TU and empl)

12.45 Lunch

14.00 *Keynote speech:* Juan Somavia (Director-General of the ILO) (tbc)

14.15-14.45 *Reporting back from workshops*

Rapporteur 1 :

Rapporteur 2:

Comments on the workshops by:

Bernadette Ségol, Regional Secretary, UNI-Europa

Rainer Plassmann, Secretary-General, CEEP

Hans-Werner Müller, Secretary-General, UEAPME

14.45 **Working Session 5: Social dialogue at national level – inspiration for the EU level?**

This plenary session will be devoted to a discussion of national examples of social dialogue which could affect or inspire Social Dialogue at EU level.

Chair: Marjeta Cotman, Minister of Labour, Slovenia (maybe as speaker, tbc)

Speaker 1: Peter Cassells, Irish Partnership

Speaker 2: Spanish agreement on fixed term work

Speaker 3: NMS example

16.15 **Closing Session: Reporting back from the Conference**

Moderator: Master of Ceremonies

Participants from:

Vladimir Špidla, Commissioner

Poul Nyrup Rasmussen (tbc)

NN

17.00 - Close of the conference