



Objectives and Work Programme of the social dialogue committee in the Steel Industry January 2009 -January 2010

Objectives

The European social partners in the steel industry – the European Metalworkers' Federation (EMF) and the European Confederation of Iron and Steel Industries (EUROFER) have established, in June 2006, a Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee, with the full support of the European Commission. By engaging in a social dialogue at EU level both organisations have contributed to the viability and perspectives of the European sector. To date, a joint position on the Commission's Communication on ETS has been developed, data compilation concerning the employment in the European steel industry as well as health and safety statistics have been launched. Analysis and discussion on the situation and outlook of the competitiveness of the European steel industry has been started up. Both social partners consider the social dialogue as an important means to realising improvements for the industry and its employees.

The social dialogue committee pursues the following objectives:

- 1. On the basis of its work programme, the sectoral social dialogue committee should conduct exchanges on topics of mutual interest and should develop the capacity for subsequent joint action.*
- 2. On the basis of its expertise it should develop concepts and proposals to influence European and national debates and it should give directions and recommendations in order to contribute to policy developments both at the national and European level. The social dialogue committee should monitor the implementation of its joint opinions, guidelines and recommendations.*
- 3. The scope of the committee's activities should range from bilateral projects with the support of the European Commission, and three-way exchanges of information with the European Commission, to consultations to develop common positions and actions, in particular, vis-à-vis the European institutions.*
- 4. The social dialogue committee should monitor the social, economic and employment consequences of EU policies on the steel sector.*
- 5. It should promote and monitor the implementation at the national level of the results of the European level social dialogue.*

6. *The social partners may decide to embody the results of their dialogue into a European agreement.*

In the framework of the above-mentioned objectives the European social partners in the steel industry propose the following work programme:

- Health and Safety: Development of risk assessment matrix from European steel industry, data collection on health and safety.
- Training issue: Special attention on the anticipation of skills needed in the sector, follow the initiatives undertaken by the Commission on education and training, setting up of a small working group to examine future objectives.
- Structural changes: Identification of industrial policy instruments for the steel sector. Follow up on the economic and social context of the steel sector, research and development policies, climate change policies (such as EU Emission Trading System and its social, economic and environmental impact), and policies on raw materials and trade.
- Compilation of employment figures in the European steel industry.
- Development of joint policy statements (as e.g. on issues like energy, the environment and raw material policy) vis-à-vis European institutions and joint participation in the consultation process on EU regulation concerning the steel industry.

Brussels,

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