



---

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE IN THE STEEL SECTOR</b></p>
--

***Preamble***

In accordance with article 1 of Commission Decision 98/500/EC of 20 May 1998<sup>1</sup>,

**EMF**

and

**EUROFER**

Jointly submitted on 19 December 2003 a request to the Commission for the establishment of a Social Dialogue Committee in the Steel sector.

In a letter dated 6 of April 2006, the Commission formally confirmed the creation of the Social Dialogue Committee in the Steel sector.

By application of article 5.1 of the aforementioned Commission Decision, which states that "each Committee shall, together with the Commission, establish its own rules of procedure", the Internal Rules of Procedure for the Committee are set out below.

***Article 1***

The Committee's objectives are to:

- Deliver opinions to the Commission on initiatives with regard to social and employment policy and the development of European policy having consequences in the Steel sector;
- Encourage and develop the social dialogue at sectoral level;
- Possibly, embody the results of the social partners' dialogue into an European agreement.

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 225, 12.8.98

## **Article 2**

In order to achieve these objectives, the Committee shall:

- Work in a spirit of co-operation and consensus;
- Meet in plenary session at least once a year;
- Adopt in plenary a multi-annual work programme, based on themes identified and agreed jointly;
- Organise the implementation of the work programme in a flexible manner, establishing Ad Hoc working groups as necessary on specific subjects;
- Promote the discussion and/or implementation, for instance, of policies, statements and recommendations adopted by the Committee;
- Regularly evaluate and update its work programme;
- Liaise closely with the Commission Secretariat and include Commission officials in its discussions as appropriate.

## **Article 3**

1. The Committee will be composed by up to a maximum of 50 representatives from the employers' and workers' organisations (25 from each side). At least 10 representatives per side will be present when decisions are taken.
2. EMF and Eurofer will co-ordinate respectively the employers' and workers' delegations and invite their representatives to the various meetings and activities of the Committee, Steering Group and Ad Hoc Working Groups taking into account the need for gender and geographical balance.

The European Social Partners may invite external experts on which they have jointly agreed to the meetings of the Steel Social Dialogue Committee and of the Ad Hoc Working Groups

3. No remuneration shall be paid to Committee members or to external experts in respect of functions exercised or as regards participation in meetings.
4. Accommodation and travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the Commission's rules and procedures.

## **Article 4**

1. The Committee will agree a chairperson and a vice-chairperson. One will be appointed by EMF; the other by EUROFER. The role of chair and vice-chair will alternate between the two organisations at two-yearly intervals.
2. In the event that the chairperson or vice-chairperson become no longer engaged in the work of the sectoral social dialogue committee, a successor will be appointed by the employers' or the employees' side for the remainder of the term;

## **Article 5**

1. The Committee will establish a Steering Group whose function shall be to prepare and co-ordinate the meetings of the Committee in liaison with the Commission's services. This Group shall be composed of members appointed

by EMF and EUROFER. The Steering Group will agree its detailed working methods.

2. The Steering Group will comprise of up to 6 representatives for each side.
3. The Commission services will provide the Secretariat for the Committee and for the Steering Group.
4. The Steering Group will meet at least once a year.

### **Article 6**

The Commission shall provide the Secretariat for the Committee, the Ad Hoc Working Groups and the Steering Group.

The Secretariat shall inform EMF and EUROFER of documents relating to the sector and forward texts adopted by the Committee to external parties, including relevant Commission services.

### **Article 7**

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 287 of the Treaty, if the Commission informs the Committee that the opinion requested relates to a subject that is confidential, members undertake not to disclose information they may receive through their work in the Committee, working groups or in the Steering Group.

### **Article 8**

The Internal Rules of Procedure will enter into force on adoption by the Committee.

### **Article 9**

EMF and EUROFER may review the internal rules of procedure at the request of one of the parties mentioned in the preamble. Any changes will be taken by consensus.

Adopted on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2006

Signatures:

EMF

EUROFER