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REPORT ON THE 1st MEETING OF THE PILOT COMMITTEE PROJECT “EWCs: THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL DIALOGUE”

Milan, March 12, 2019

Convention no. VS/2019/0064

Participants:

Miriam FERRARI – CISL Lombardia; Luca LOMBI – CISL Lombardia; Patrizia GIUDICI – Cisl Lombardia; David PAPIOL and Pilar CASTELLÀ – UGT Catalunya; Michela ALBARELLO and Laura DIEGUEZ FERRER – CCOO Catalunya; Radu MINEA and Cristina ALBU IACOB – CSDR Romania; Veselin MITOV and Diana KATEVA – PODKREPA Bulgaria; Massimo BALZARINI and Massimiliano RATTI – Cgil Lombardia; Antonio ALBRIZO and Michela RUSCIANO – Uil Lombardia e Milano

The agenda of the meeting, as specified in the call letter, was as follows:

1. Formalisation of the Pilot Committee composition
2. Illustration of the general and specific objectives of the project and working method
3. Approval of the action timetable
4. Identification of the contents of transnational training modules
5. Approval of the budget
6. Miscellaneous (partnership agreement and privacy documentation)



Miriam Ferrari, head of the project and representative of CISL Lombardia (applicant), started the proceedings by welcoming all participants and illustrating the character and contents of the Pilot Committee meeting. Then, Paola Gilardoni – regional Secretary of CISL Lombardia, entrusted with European policies – took the floor to reiterate the strong commitment of CISL Lombardia on the themes of information, consultation and participation of workers in European Works Councils, underlining that this subject is tackled by the European Pillar of Social Rights, and that this action is meant as a tool to concretely pursue the implementation of the

principles laid out in the document.

1. Formalisation of the Pilot Committee composition

As anticipated in the call letter for the first Pilot Committee meeting, sent to all the representatives of the trade unions involved in the project (co-applicants), and as specified in the project description approved by the European Commission, the Pilot Committee will consist of 2 members for each “co-applicant”, 1 member in charge of project co-ordination, and 1 member with expertise in EWC themes and training. The Pilot Committee will also include 3 members for the applicant side: Miriam Ferrari, in her quality as head of the project, Luca Lombi as project co-ordinator, and Patrizia Giudici as trainer.

The Pilot Committee is intended as the tool for managing the project in a co-operative manner, involving all the partners, so as to work together and facilitate the implementation of the project – as also indicated by the method chosen to bring the project into life.

2. Illustration of the general and specific objectives of the project and working method

Miriam Ferrari and Luca Lombi – head and co-ordinator of the project, representatives of Cisl Lombardia (applicant) – gave a general overview of the project, specifically:

- *the players involved in the project*
- *why this project*
- *which objectives*
- *which actions are envisaged*
- *planning of activities*
- *which working method*
- *tasks, roles and responsibilities*
- *draft budget*

The reasons underlying the presentation of the project “**EWCs: the European Pillar of Social Dialogue**” and the general and specific objectives of the action were highlighted in greater detail, and shared with the aid of slides (see attachment).

Through this project, CISL Lombardia, along with the trade unions Cgil Lombardia, Uil Milano-Lombardia, UGT de Catalunya, CCOO de Catalunya, CSDR Romania and PODKREPA Bulgaria, and with the support of the ETUC, intends to implement a common action involving the partners of previous joint actions on the themes of information, consultation and participation of workers, with a view to improving the overall effectiveness and competence of the members of current and future EWCs, faced with the challenges resulting from the digitisation of work and society. This action is intended to concretely pursue the implementation of the principles laid out in the European Pillar of Social Rights.

3. Approval of the action timetable

All the activities planned within the framework of the project were then discussed with the co-applicants, who received the detailed working programme in English and French, specifying the project actions envisaged.

As planned, the Pilot Committee confirmed the action timetable, with only one change, due to an oversight: the insertion of the 5th Pilot Committee on the occasion of the 3rd transnational training module in Bucharest. Then, the colleagues from Catalunya pointed out that they need to organise the 1st training module in Barcelona in the second half of September 2019. An attempt was made at choosing the date for the next meeting devoted to training – and that date, still to be confirmed, might be June 17, 2019.

The approved action timetable is as follows:

DATE	VENUE	ACTIVITIES
12/03/2019	Milan	1 st Pilot Committee
03/2019 – 02/2021	Italy, Spain, Romania, Bulgaria	Creation of the virtual platform of the project

06/2019	Milan	2 nd Pilot Committee – Trainers’ meeting
09/2019 (second half of September)	Barcelona	1 st Transnational training module
09/2019	Barcelona	3 rd Pilot Committee
02/2020	Sofia	2 nd Transnational training module
02/2020	Sofia	4 th Pilot Committee
07/2020	Bucharest	3 rd Transnational training module
07/2020	Bucharest	5 th Pilot Committee
11/2020	Milan	Final transnational public event
11/2020	Milan	6 th Pilot Committee

4. Focus on training

The following point of focus was the presentation and sharing of the topics to be tackled during the 3 transnational training modules envisaged by the project.

Patrizia Giudici, a trainer from CISL Lombardia, went on to illustrate the possible contents of the 3 modules:

- 1st module – 09/2019 in Barcelona: European legislative framework on workers’ ICP
 - The EWC Recast Directive 2009/38/EC
 - The transposition framework in national States
 - The European Pillar of Social Rights
 - Available tools – the ETUI database
 - TCAs and the role of EWCs
- 2nd module – 02/2020 in Sofia: The Financial Statements of multinational companies
 - Monitoring participant competence before the meeting
 - The definition of “group of undertakings”, and different types of undertakings
 - The purpose, form and structure of consolidated financial statements
 - The economic and financial analysis through financial statement indexes
- 3rd module – 07/2020 in Bucharest: How the EWC must change before the challenge of digitisation
 - The Industry 4.0 challenge: labour organisation – worker participation – training – skills – work/life balance
 - Best practices
 - Communication between the subjects of representation: EWCs and FEDERATIONS

All the partners agreed with the approach and contents identified; they also agreed for delegates to participate in all of the 3 training modules, whenever possible, so as to ensure training continuity. In this connection, PODKREPA Bulgaria (co-applicant), represented by Veselin Mitov, pointed out that it would be difficult for them to have their trade union representative attend all the training days – that cover a period of one year – since they do not have sufficient training permits. It will thus be necessary to find a shared solution to this problem.

As for the detailed definition of subjects, contents, methods and speakers to be invited to training modules, the trainers will meet and discuss during the 2nd Pilot Committee meeting that will take place in June 2019 in Milan.

5. Approval of the budget

Cisl Lombardia, in its quality as applicant and co-ordinator, illustrated the budget items and the expense covered. The project “EWCs: the European Pillar of Social Dialogue” shall cover the following costs:

Costs of the staff involved in the project for each partner
Travel and accommodation costs
Translation costs
Interpretation costs
Room rental and interpreters' booth costs
Electronic platform
Final publication

All co-applicant organisations shall commit to co-funding, in compliance with the commitment undertaken in their letter of commitment, calculated as extra days of work dedicated to the project by the people involved.

6. Miscellaneous (partnership agreement)

The last item on the agenda was an illustration of the contents of the partnership agreement, that each co-applicant will sign, along with the applicant.

This was followed by an illustration of the document for the appointment of an External Processor for the processing of personal data, and the Privacy Statement, drawn up by the applicant within the framework of this project, in line with the provisions of the new European Regulation currently in force.

After discussing all the items on the agenda, Cisl Lombardia thanked all participants for their active contribution, and closed the proceedings of the 1st meeting of the Pilot Committee of the European project “**EWCs: the European Pillar of Social Dialogue**”.