



Brussels, 4 November 2013
DG EMPL C-3/LK D(2013)

**Outcome of the Meeting
of the Assistants to Heads of PES
17-18 October 2013
Brussels**

Item 1: Adoption of draft agenda of the meeting and adoption of outcome of previous meeting

The draft agenda and the outcome of the last meeting were adopted.

Item 2: Update on legislative process of COM proposal for decision of EP and Council on enhanced cooperation between PES

COM informed about the state of play in particular the preliminary positions of EP and Council and the next steps.

Item 3: Follow up to Berlin Youth Conference and preparation of the Paris Youth Conference on 12 November 2013

The exchange of views focused on the elaboration of the HoPES Assessment Report on PES capacities to implement the Youth Guarantee during summer 2013. The timing for sending out the questionnaire and answering, imposed by the conclusions of the Berlin conference, was challenging; in future sending out questionnaires during summer holidays should be avoided. The assessment report was considered to be of good quality; it was also emphasised that a self-assessment is by nature subjective and that with the planned PES benchmarking a more objective assessment becomes possible. It was suggested to repeat the exercise in the future in order to track progress. For the planned HoPES input to the Paris Youth conference – the catalogue of PES Youth Guarantee measures – it was proposed to include measures from all PES.

FR explained the preparations for the extraordinary meeting of the Heads of PES in the morning of 12th November 2013 in Paris. Afterwards a common lunch of the EU Employment Ministers, Commissioner Andor, the HoPES and the European Social Partners is scheduled. In the afternoon there will be Youth Conference chaired by President Hollande, with the Heads of States, EU Employment Ministers, Commission and 2 HoPES representatives at Elysée Palace. It was agreed that Jean Basseres, Head of PES France, will speak on behalf of the network at the meeting of the EU Employment Ministers/HoPES and Frank Weise, Head of PES Germany, will speak on behalf of the network at the conference on Heads of State/Government level.

Item 4: Final report by the PES Working Group Efficiency

The UK chair of the working group presented the preliminary findings (PPT available on CIRCA). The report includes a number of good practices and strategic conclusions on how PES address the efficiency challenge by a better allocation of resources to ensure more effective outcomes in line with PES objectives. The working group identified five themes of common relevance:

1. Reforms to PES organisational structure and the deployment of resources
2. New models for performance management
3. Developing the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
4. Improvement of services for jobseekers
5. Expansion of services for employers

The report will be presented to the Heads of PES in Vilnius for approval.

Item 5: Progress report by PES Working Group Benchmarking /Mutual Learning

The DE chair of the working group reported on the results of the two meetings so far held. The main objective is how to look into PES performance in key areas. The main discussions points of a working group on a possible benchmarking methodology include:

1. The definition of quantitative indicators
2. Qualitative aspects to be assessed through performance enablers in scored interviews
3. Grouping of PES
4. Organisation of the learning process

The progress report will be presented to the Heads of PES in Vilnius for endorsement.

Item 6: Progress report by the PES Working Group "Transition old to new network"

BE Le Forem as working group rapporteur presented first ideas for the rules for procedures of the new PES network (PPT available on CIRCA).

In the discussion it was emphasised that the new network requires all PES to invest time and staff resources. Several aspects of the rules of procedures were discussed without reaching a conclusion: The duration of the mandate of the chair, the selection method for the chair (linked to EU Presidency), the language regime, the representation of the Network in other EU level bodies, the role of alternate members, the composition of ad-hoc voluntary working groups, and the duration of the work programme/programming period.

It was decided that COM will prepare first draft text of the rules of procedures for discussion at the Heads of PES meeting, with final adoption foreseen during the first PES Network meeting in 2014

Item 7: Miscellaneous

COM presented the state of play of the PES EU 2020 self-assessment, the provisional planning of the PARES activities in 2013-2014 including the PARES Benchmarking call and the upcoming call for proposals "delivering on skills for growth and jobs" with a special section on the employment potential of ICTs and the Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs

The LT Presidency informed about the preparations and practical arrangements of the meeting of the Heads of PES in Vilnius.

Item 8: PES network governance - Final paper on how to organise HOPES workshops

UK presented as a follow to the last PES Assistants meeting in March 2013 the final paper. Minor amendments were suggested; the paper will be annexed to the PES network work programme 2014.

Item 9: PES network governance - Heads of PES meeting Vilnius – Agenda and distributions of tasks

The following items will be on the agenda:

- Follow up Berlin and Paris Youth Conferences
- Legislative proposal: Enhanced PES cooperation
- Progress reports by the PES Working Groups: 1. Concept Benchmarking/Mutual Learning 2. Transition to new network
- PES Working Group Europe 2020: PES Self-Assessment and PES action plan
- ESCO = European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations
- Introduction to LT PES and the LT labour market

Two workshops will be organised:

Workshop 1: Addressing the efficiency challenge by UK and HR

Workshop 2: How do PES use labour market information? LT and FI,

Item 10: PES network governance - PES network work programme 2014

COM presented the draft PES network work programme including the work programme of the PES-to-PES dialogue 2014 and the PES relevant parts of the work programme of the EEPO – European Employment Policy Observatory. There was principal agreement to present this work programme for approval to the Heads of PES. The discussion focused on ways to make better use and to disseminate internally the outcomes of the PES to PES dialogue. It was suggested to leave the date of the inauguration conference of the new PES network open.

With regard to the reporting of the PES relevant parts of the Youth Guarantee it was emphasised that there should not be any overlap with the EMCO reporting. It was agreed that the PES YG monitoring will include:

- An update of the PES Business Model study plus country fiches in 2014 including a specific youth module
- Continued self-assessment of PES capacities to implement the Youth Guarantee with a focus on PES core activities.
- Monitoring of PES measures indicated in the HoPES Catalogue of Measures and indication of other new measures and successful practices for implementation of the Youth Guarantee not listed in the catalogue.
