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## **European ECVET Users' Group**

**1 DECEMBER 2010, BRUSSELS**

**- Minutes -**

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and opening
  2. Adoption of the agenda
  3. Vet policy setting
  4. CEDEFOP monitoring report: ECVET implementation in Europe- state of play
  5. Report on ECVET activities
  6. Draft FAQs
  7. Discussion paper ECVET label
  8. Work programme and calendar of activities 2011
  9. Presentation: ECVET thematic networking activities of LLP National Agencies
  10. EQAVET: state of play
  11. AOB
- Closing of the meeting

### **Attached documents:**

- CEDEFOP - Isabelle Le Mouillour, presentation
- ECVET Team - Richard Maniak, presentation
- FAQs – Daniela Ulicna, Questions & Answers Users Group, presentation
- Discussion paper ECVET label
- Update ECVET draft work programme 2011
- LLP National Agency Germany- Sibilla Drews, presentation ECVET thematic networking activities



- Minutes (draft) -

ad 1-2)

Risto Raivio (DG EAC/B.4) welcomed the participants and presented the agenda. He announced that the Steering committee had agreed with the COM's proposal to invite Eurochambers to the ECVET Users' group as an expert member and welcomed Ms Anja Schwarz accordingly. Mr Raivio briefly informed of the steering committee session on the previous day. The agenda was adopted.

ad 3)

Mr Raivio indicated the Council conclusions on the future priorities of the European cooperation on the VET as a working agenda for the next years. It is to be expected that the conclusions will be fed into the Bruges Communiqué to be formally adopted by the European Ministers for VET, the European Social Partners and the European Commission as a review of the Copenhagen process in the meeting in Bruges on 7 December 2010 (update: Bruges Communiqué now downloadable from [http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/vocational/bruges\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/vocational/bruges_en.pdf)).

ad 4)

Isabelle Le Mouillour (CEDEFOP) presented the monitoring report of ECVET case studies and strategies and highlighted the need of a ECVET identity.

She specifically observed 8 strategic approaches:

- 1) Setting up broad range testing initiatives
- 2) Measuring impact
- 3) Updating VET legislations and regulations
- 4) Adapting qualifications system
- 5) A 'wait and see'
- 6) Combining ECVET with NQF development
- 7) Learning by working in ECVET European projects
- 8) Marketing ECVET to the stakeholders

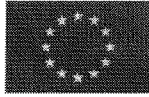
The report is available on the CEDEFOP web page [http://cedefop.europa.eu/EN/Files/6110\\_en.pdf](http://cedefop.europa.eu/EN/Files/6110_en.pdf)

### Discussion

After the presentations several speakers from the floor commented mainly on ECVET identity and the added value for mobility.

ad 5)

Mr Richard Maniak (ECVET Team) gave an overview of the activities and their outcomes. As for the workshop which addressed the members of the Users' group he mentioned that some participants who were selected as substitutes were not well informed about their role as ECVET promoters. Summing up, he considered the events important steps to reach out beyond the "ECVET community" (see annex).



## Discussion

Numerous speakers underlined the importance of precisely addressing the right target groups and welcomed the website of the ECVET team as a platform to share information. The question was also raised how to gain synergies while implementing the different European tools.

ad 6)

Daniela Ulicna (GHK) presented the draft document FAQs and further editing work. She highlighted that the working group agreed on parts A and B of the updated version as finalized. This also applied to the examples (part C) even if the ongoing testing might result in the wish to constantly update them. She referred to the steering committee which proposed that the current document should be taken as finalised and that also a shorter online version should be published (see annex).

## Discussion

While the COM suggested to the MS that they take care of the translation in the respective language as part of their ECVET promotion several speakers considered it a European task and asked the COM for support. In addition, the volume of the FAQ document and the need for a printed version were also questioned.

## Conclusions

- The Users' Group approved the FAQ document in principle, last comments can be sent no later than end of the year to Ms Daniela Ulicna ([Daniela.ulicna@ghkint.com](mailto:Daniela.ulicna@ghkint.com)) and to Mr Erik Hess ([Erik.hess@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Erik.hess@ec.europa.eu)).
- COM will reflect on the way of distribution of FAQs (online and/or printed) and come back to the Users' Group.
- COM will examine the possibility of accepting translation work as eligible costs under the upcoming restricted call addressing the LLP National Agencies with a view to establishing national teams of ECVET experts.
- Furthermore, the Com will raise the issue of translation at the next steering committee session.

ad 7)

Risto Raivio and Erik Hess (DG EAC/B.4) summarised the discussion paper ECVET label (see annex).

## Discussion

Various questions arose relating to the best fit approach (level of qualifications or more operational level) and comments were concerned with the attribution criteria and how it can reflect the diverse national implementations strategies. The question was also raised to which extent the promotion strategy via a corporate identity can provide added value? Additionally, some MS thought the time schedule not suitable. Different MS brought up the need to confine additional administrative burden and costs too.



## Conclusions

It was agreed that for further clarification the working group should provide the next Users' Group meeting with a mapping of the issues raised.

ad 8)

Erik Hess presented the planned outcomes 2011 and the calendar of activities (see updated version attached).

Mr Didier Gilbert (ECVET Team) explained the offer to carry out customised seminars ([contact@ecvet-team.eu](mailto:contact@ecvet-team.eu)).

ad 9)

Ms Sibilla Drews (NA-BIBB) presented the recently adopted ECVET network activities of the National Agencies under the Lifelong Learning Programme (see annex).

ad 10)

Ms Sophie Weisswange (DG EAC/B4) reported on the ongoing work of the EQAVET network and the initiative among EGF, EQAVET and ECVET to strengthen the mutual cooperation ([www.eqavet.eu](http://www.eqavet.eu)).

ad 11) AOB

- In order to support the working group the Users' group nominated
  - Ms Külli All as a substitute for Ms Drews to work on the mobility guide
  - Ms Marja-Leena Lampinen as an external expert to work on the document on ECVET and lifelong learning
  - Ms Jocelyne Pirdas as a permanent substitute for Mr Alain Bultot
- It was agreed that the minutes of the steering committee will be sent to the members of the Users' Group
- The documents of the Users' Group meetings will be accessible on the ECVET Team's website [www.ecvet-team.eu](http://www.ecvet-team.eu)
- In line with the rule that the composition of the steering committee foresees that the past, present and future EU presidencies are members the COM will invite a Polish representative

## Closing

*Next Users' Group meeting: 11 May 2011*