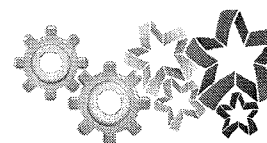


EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Translation

Directorate S - Translation strategy and Multilingualism
S.3 - Multilingualism and translation studies



LIND-Web
Language Industry
Web Platform

Brussels, 26. 06. 2012
DGT.S.3/HG/kmd - (2012)873399

DRAFT MINUTES

LIND-WEB - PREPARATORY EXPERT MEETING

Brussels, 23 May 2012

The fourth meeting of the LIND-Web Editorial Board was held in Brussels on Wednesday, 23 May. Six out of nine Board members attended the meeting.

Present:

From the Editorial Board:

Claudio Chiavetta, Lionbridge,

Kim Harris, Gala

*Jorge Diaz-Cintas, ESIST/Imperial College
London*

*Nino Platteel, formerly at the Dutch National
Institute for Statistics*

Eyvor Fogarty FIT

Mirko Silvestrini, EUATC

From DGT:

Pinuccia Contino, F. Frangini, I. Vihonen, K. Fuhrmann, H. Glastra

For the first part only: *G. Hauschildt, F. De Vicente, M. Adamiš, F. Majcen, P. Verleysen*

Excused:

Marie-Pierre Mayar, Martin Hope, Christophe Declercq

The meeting consisted of two parts.

I. Preparations for the four workshops of the first Forum on the Language Industry Web Platform

The first part of the meeting was dedicated to the preparations of the four workshops of the first Forum on the Language Industry Web Platform. The four directors of DGT that would chair the workshops were present at the working lunch, to get to know their co-moderators:

Drafting groups	Defining a Classification for the Sector	Pilot Projects on Statistics	Qualifications for Better Employability	The Societal Role of the Language Industry: Visibility, Ethics and Awareness
Moderators	Miroslav Adamiš Jorge Díaz-Cintas	Filip Majcen Nino Platteel Werner Grünewald	Piet Verleysen Mirko Silvestrini Claudio Chiavetta	Gurli Hauschildt Kim Harris Eyvor Fogarty Christophe Declercq

The objective of the workshops was to come to concrete conclusions on further action to be taken and on who would take the lead for such actions.

Especially in these times of austerity the task of DGT should not be to take the lead, but rather provide support within the limits of its possibilities.

Each Workshop chair briefly described their objectives and envisaged methodology. The moderators were reminded that each workshop would have 15 minutes to present its conclusions to the plenary session.

II. The future of LIND-Web - Objectives and possible follow-up of the forum

This part of the meeting was attended by the members of the Editorial Board present and the LIND-Web Team, and was chaired by Pinuccia Contino. The main points raised:

- DGT could provide political support, but would have very limited resources for anything else. The Forum presented a unique opportunity for empowering the language industry. The seeds for this would be planted at the Forum.
- The language industry should show concretely its interest in changing the NACE classification. It would be good to have the official positions – in writing – from the industry, associations, etc.
- First the Member States have to be convinced of the need to change the NACE classification. And they would need more data, for example regarding growth, similar to information published by Common Sense Advisory (which is very US-centric, though).
- The question was whether grassroots organisations are interested in statistics. Translation is not always clear in a company's activities (lawyers or communication departments sometimes also translate...). It will be impossible to capture all translation in statistics. Moreover, it is not always clear where to put translation (marketing? communication?).
- To get support for changing the NACE classification, it must be made very clear why it should be changed. Economic arguments are powerful. In addition, having the language industry featuring in official statistics contributes to standardisation and professionalization of the sector and helps other companies to categorise language service providers (LSPs).
- It was agreed that the Editorial Board would identify a strategy to increase visibility of the sector and to work towards the goal of having separate statistics on the language industry. It would have to decide whether a common petition or rather several petitions from the different subsectors and associations would be the best way forward.
- Furthermore, the Board would have to decide on the future of the Platform. In this context the following issues were raised:
 - Is it possible to turn it into a joint portal for the industry, associations and universities? Such a portal could include a space for freelance translators.
 - Who will be the main catalyst of the Platform and data provision? Could these be overseen by a new, EU-wide "umbrella" association for the industry, associations and universities? Such an association would not be exclusive, but open to a broad range of organisations. It would have to start small, though, with a strong focus.

- Other actions proposed:
 - Contacts with all national associations
 - Formulate some short, standardised key messages, to be endorsed by all sectors, serving as guidelines for speaking with one voice on behalf of the language industry.
 - Involve other language-related units in the Commission.
 - Promote language tools at universities.

Finally, the minutes of the third Board meeting of 3 February 2012 were formally approved.