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Directorate-General for Education and Culture

Lifelong learning: policies and programme  
Vocational training; Leonardo da Vinci

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## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COPENHAGEN WORKING GROUP**

**9 OCTOBER 2012**

### **1. Opening**

Mr António Silva Mendes, Director of Lifelong Learning: policies and programme, opened the meeting. No comments had been received to the minutes of the previous meeting, so they can be considered approved.

### **2. Bruges Communiqué: Stock-taking**

Cedefop presented the process and the initial final results of the stock-taking, while ETF presented their contribution to the work. So far, the country-specific fiches have been sent to each country. The draft report will be sent to countries the week after this meeting, in order to be discussed at the DGVT meeting.

At this point, also a new roadmap on milestones leading to the 2014 review of the Copenhagen process and to the definition of the new short-term deliverables for 2015-2017 (which should be adopted in 2015 under the new Commission) was presented.

It was stated that the results of the stock-taking give good evidence on the progress in VET within Europe 2020. Furthermore, this work supports strongly the NRPs.

Social Partners were worried that the initiatives of the Social Partners are not visible in the country fiches. It was, however, highlighted that VET-related initiatives of Social Partners should be visible in the country reports, and that in 2014, for the next report, also Social Partners could be asked to fill in the questionnaire. However, it was reminded that in the context of the 2010 report, the response rate of the national Social partners was very low and their participation should be encouraged in the future.

### **3. Improving the governance of the Copenhagen process**

A background note on how to improve the governance of the Copenhagen process by improving synergies and avoiding duplication in the governance structures was sent to participants in advance.

Due to recent policy developments, and in particular as some of the themes foreseen in the future have already been discussed within the Copenhagen process events, a new table of semester themes for 2013-2015 was presented.

The participants confirmed the need to rationalise and there was unanimity for the proposal to organise the meetings of the Copenhagen Working Group and the ACVT bureau jointly. ETF pointed out that the DGVT should be a more political body whereas ACVT should have a more technical role.

It was decided to submit the same note to the DGVT and the ACVT for further discussion.

### **4. VET-related events during the Cypriot and other future presidencies**

The contents of the next DGVT meeting in Cyprus were presented. It was noted that contrary to what was discussed at the last Cph WG and DGVT meetings, there will be no Council Conclusions in VET, due to the Communications on "Re-thinking education" and the "Youth Employment Package" which will include also VET-related elements.

Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Copenhagen process is foreseen at lunch on the first day of the Education council, 26 November (note changed date) with the presence of the Commissioner Vassiliou and the Education Ministers.

The Irish and the Lithuanian representatives presented their plans for their presidencies. During the Irish Presidency, the theme quality assurance will be dealt with at the DGVT meeting. The Lithuanian presidency hopes that the proposed sub-group of the thematic working group on early school leaving would be able to present the first results of their work already at the DGVT meeting in Lithuania. (note that the DGVT meeting did not confirm the establishment of such sub-group but the subject will be addressed within the general Thematic Working Group on early school leaving).

### **Closing**

The date of the next meeting was not decided on, as this will depend on whether the DGVT will decide to joint this working group with the ACVT bureau.

Annex: List of participants

**List of participants  
Copenhagen Working Group – Brussels, 9 October 2012**

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