FACT SHEET

The European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT)

EFFAT represents 135 national trade unions from 41 European countries, and defends the interests of more than 2.6 million trade union members throughout the food chain, “from farm to fork” – that is, in agriculture, in food and drink, and in hotels, restaurants and catering – towards the European Institutions, European employers' associations and transnational companies' management.

EFFAT:
- promotes sustainable agriculture, food and tourism policies, high social standards and effective health and safety legislation. Through the Social Dialogue, EFFAT negotiates agreements with European employers' organisations aimed at improving the conditions faced by workers in the sectors and industries it represents.
- organises the representation of workers and trade unions vis-à-vis transnational companies, supports the activities of European Works Councils, and promotes the coordination of national collective bargaining policies across Europe.
- is a recognised European social partner organisation and has a social dialogue underway in the agriculture, hotel and restaurant, contract catering, sugar, and food and drink sectors with the relevant European employers’ association.
- supports its member organisations in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe in building up free and strong trade unions.
- strives for a sustainable development of agro, food and tourism policies in which social, ethical and ecological aspects are considered. Only safe jobs and good working conditions can also guarantee safe and high quality food.
- is an autonomous European Trade Union Federation. As a member of the ETUC, EFFAT promotes its members’ interests regarding European interprofessional issues. As the regional organisation within the IUF, EFFAT defends its members’ interests globally.

The EFFAT decision-making structures are:
- Congress (every 5 years)
- Executive Committee (2 annual meetings)
- Management Committee (4 annual meetings)
- Sectoral Assemblies (1 annual meeting)
- Sector Boards (2 annual meetings)
- Women's Committee (1-2 annual meetings)
- Youth Committee (1-2 annual meetings).

Daily work is carried out by the EFFAT secretariat comprising:
- 1 General Secretary
- 3 Sectoral Secretaries
- 1 Coordinator for Transnational Companies / European Works Councils
- 1 Communication Officer
- 4 Administrative Secretaries
- 1 Accountant.

More information: www.effat.org