

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Advisors for European PES Affairs (AFEPA's)

Brussels, 29-30 October 2015

### Outcomes

**Participants:** AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, UK, COM, Secretariat

**Absent:** IE, BG

#### **ITEM 1: Opening of the meeting, adoption of draft agenda**

Outcomes of the last meeting were adopted.

#### **ITEM 2: Follow-up PES Board meeting Riga**

The working groups on long-term unemployment and fair mobility established at the meeting are operative.

#### **ITEM 3: COM proposal for Council Recommendation for the integration of long-term unemployed into the labour market**

COM proposal was adopted on 16.09. Negotiations with the Council are ongoing. COM presented the proposal. The presentation can be found on the Network extranet.

The Network will discuss in the next meeting of the benchlearning working group the possibility to add additional indicators on long-term unemployment and/or implementation of the Youth Guarantee in the quantitative assessment framework. The Board will take a decision on it in the next Board meeting in Luxembourg.

*Action points and next steps:*

- *Benchlearning working group to prepare a proposal to the Board on possible additional indicators.*

#### **ITEM 4: PES Working Group on long-term unemployment**

UK, Chair of the WG, presented the results of the work of the working group. Presentation can be found on the Network Extranet.

The paper produced by the working group will be presented to the Board in December as basis for the Network work on long-term unemployment with the proposal to publish the paper as a Network document. The Board will take the final decision on the publication of the document.

*Action point:*

- *AFEPAAs to send comments to the paper in writing to the Secretariat and the UK AFEPA no later than 13.11. The UK, with the support of the Secretariat, will revise the paper on the basis of comments and suggestions received through this written procedure. Revised paper will be circulated to the AFEPAAs the following week.*

#### **ITEM 5: PES working group on 'fair mobility'**

AT, Chair of the WG, presented the results of the work of the working group. The group agreed that there is further work needed on the paper. Based on comments in writing after the meeting, the revised document will be prepared if necessary. According to extent and quality of comments received and any revision undertaken, it will be decided whether the paper can be submitted to the Board in December or whether further work is needed and the presentation of the paper will be delayed to the following Board meeting.

*Action points:*

- *AFEPAAs to send comments to the paper in writing to the Secretariat and the AT AFEPA no later than 13.11*

#### **ITEM 6. PES Network Employers Day**

DE presented a concept for the employers' day. It can be found on the AFEPAAs extranet. The Board shall agree on a date for the date as soon as possible. A written procedure will be launched to this regard. Preparation activities shall be organised in the following months according to availability of financial support.

*Action point:*

- *DE will present a revised concept integrating the comments received at the meeting.*
- *Secretariat will launch written procedure for agreement of date by the Board.*
- *Secretariat will check whether preparatory workshop or working groups can be covered financially through the benchlearning contracts.*

### **ITEM 7: Preparation of agenda PES Board meeting**

The Chair and Vice-Chairs agreed on a proposal for the agenda of the Board meeting. There is the need to decide whether the topic of PES activities for the integration of refugees will be discussed in the plenary or in one of the workshops.

### **ITEM 8: ESF projects with PES using simplified cost options**

Presentations by COM, FR and BE can be found on the AFEPA's extranet.

### **ITEM 9: Information on pilot project to assess feasibility and added value of an European Unemployment Benefit Scheme**

Presentation by CEPS can be found on the AFEPA's extranet. Other information on the rationale and challenges of a European Unemployment Benefit Scheme can be found under: <http://ceps.eu/publications/european-unemployment-benefits-scheme-rationale-and-challenges-ahead>

### **ITEM 10: Update on ESCO**

COM presentation on ESCO can be found on the AFEPA's extranet.

*Action point:*

- *ESCO Secretariat to share results of mapping pilot to the Network.*

### **ITEM 11: Drop'pin**

COM presentation on Drop'pin can be found on the AFEPA's extranet.

### **Open exchange between AFEPA's**

The Network could collect information on what PES are currently doing with refugees through a questionnaire.

*Action point:*

- *AFEPA's to send additional questions on the issues PES work with refugees and Secretariat to circulate them to the Network.*

### **ITEM 12: Preparation of PES draft work programme 2016**

Vision: External and internal visions will be merged. A reference to the official mandate of the Network will be added. In addition to other comments and contributions provided at the meeting, the contributions could be sent by the AFEPA's in writing.

Role of the Board in monitoring: There is an agreement that the Board should be involved in the monitoring of the benchlearning. The monitoring should remain an informal tool. The proposal of an award will be dropped. Secretariat will reformulate the proposal.

PES working group benchlearning: Some experts on organisational learning should be included in the group replacing existing members, when it is possible. A new training for assessors will be organised at the beginning of 2016.

Learning priorities 2016: UK, as Chair of the LTU working group, will contribute to the design of the Conference on LTU planned for next year. One of the analytical papers could be dedicated to disability.

Stakeholders conference: The group agreed to the proposal of the Secretariat

Communication: VDAB will send revised proposals for option three of the logo. Decision of the logo will be taken by the Board at the meeting in December. DE will make a proposal for a standard presentation on the PES Network. The AFEPA's extranet will be the main repository of documents, including documents related to mutual learning events. CIRCABC will not be used anymore. Social media presence of the Network will be discussed at the next Board meeting. Secretariat will discuss with selected PES how to improve the collection of information for the annual report.

Virtual working group on skills monitoring and evaluation: First aggregated data will be collected in January. On the basis of this, the working group will propose to the Network whether to continue the data collection on a regular basis or not.

*Action points:*

- *AFEPA's to propose learning experts for benchlearning working group.*
- *Secretariat to propose for the next meeting of the benchlearning working group in March 2016 a mandate for the group.*
- *VDAB to check possibility to propose two revised options for logo nr. 3.*
- *DE to prepare a proposal for a standard presentation on the Network.*
- *PES are invited to check whether they have resources to produce a short video on the Network.*
- *Secretariat will send the template for the data collection on bottleneck vacancies. PES will have three weeks to fill it in.*
- ***AFEPA's to send written contributions to the Work Programme no later than 13.11.2015.***
- ***On the basis of the contributions received in writing after the meeting, the Secretariat will draft a revised version of the work programme and send it for a second round of comments to the AFEPA's. The Secretariat will then draft the final version to be proposed to the Board at its meeting in December.***

## **AOB**

Due to an internal reorganisation of DG Employment, Social Affairs and inclusion, there will be some changes in the team supporting the work of the PES Network.

The new Unit in charge of the PES Network will be Unit B.1. Employment strategy, led by Max Uebe. The Unit is part of the Directorate B: Employment, led by the Director Stefan Olsson. Nadia Elhaggagi will coordinate the work of the PES Secretariat.

Lambert Kleinmann, Head of the PES Secretariat, Agnese Papadia and Barbora Novotna are leaving the team for new challenges in DG EMPL and in other DGs. The Network thanked the colleagues for their support.