

MINUTES

Meeting:	MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
Date:	Thursday, 26 January 2017
Time:	08:30-10:00
Venue:	Hotel Meliá Bilbao – Meeting room Pelli

1. Draft Agenda

The Chair welcomed the attendees and asked all Bureau members whether they had a potential conflict of interest with any of the items to be discussed, in compliance with the Agency's policy on management of conflict of interest. No Bureau member declared any.

The Governments asked to include under "Any other business" a remark on focal points' knowledge management by the Agency.

The Chair clarified that, as decided by the Bureau at their last meeting in 2016, no proper Bureau meeting was planned this time. This was intended as a wrap-up Bureau meeting to discuss the main issues that came up during the interest groups meetings. These notes are meant to report the discussions on such main issues as well as other points of interests – but in general they do not include viewpoints and decisions that are already reflected in the Board meeting minutes.

CONCLUSION: The draft Agenda was adopted.

2. Draft minutes

The draft minutes had been circulated previously. The Agency had received comments from the Commission, which were included. There were no additional comments.

CONCLUSION: The draft minutes were adopted.

3. Governing Board meeting preparation

The main item discussed at the wrap up meeting was the Healthy Workplaces Campaign Strategy 2018-2019 on dangerous substances.

The Agency developed a strategy for the next campaign which the Bureau discussed in November 2016. The three groups agreed that the campaign messages included in the strategy were too many and that a certain degree of rationalisation was required.

In particular, the Governments stated that they were flexible when it comes to the slogan. In order to reduce the number of messages, they proposed three umbrella messages, namely: prevention culture; work together and tackle dangerous substances. The other messages should be structured around the hierarchy of prevention and other additional aspects: identification; act accordingly; vulnerable groups; carcinogens; available solutions. The reference to biological agents should also be deleted.

The Workers agreed on the need to reduce the messages. Their priority messages were: prevention is the first obligation and must be the loudest message; the importance and benefit of involving workers and their safety representatives; there are more dangerous substances at the

workplaces and many more people affected than what you would think. There should be no room for claims such as that it is up to workers to protect themselves and that there is enough legislation to tackle dangerous substances at the workplace. Furthermore, they expressed the wish that the campaign could be organised across the two years in such a way so as – for the first year – to address dangerous substances from a more general perspective – and, during the second year, more focussed on carcinogens. The Agency could provide support via the European Campaign Assistance Package (ECAP) for events that are initiated by the social partners.

Also the Employers acknowledged the importance of structuring the messages in a more logical way. They also called for better accuracy when it comes to dangerous substances, agents etc. Experts from the employers should be consulted – e.g., via the Agency's Advisory Groups – to contribute to that. In addition, the focus should be on how dangerous substances should be managed – without creating alarmism in a generic way. It is important that all campaign related material are sent well in advance so as to allow proper consultation.

The Governments, in particular, invited the Agency to involve focal points as closely as possible in the development of this campaign. A summary of the Bureau/Board's discussions should be provided to the focal points before their meeting in Bilbao in February. At the request of the Workers and the Employers, the Agency should also work on a revised focal point agreement to encourage social partners' involvement in the definition of the tasks as well as in their implementation. The Agency should present an updated focal point agreement for the Bureau's consideration at their next meeting in June.

It was finally proposed that the strategy should be adapted by including an umbrella message referring to prevention culture and working together, biological agents should be eliminated from the focus, and the reference to legislation should be more neutral (eliminating the adjective "strong"). The Focal points would discuss the messages and use those most relevant to their national context and priorities throughout the campaign. It was also proposed that workers and employers should nominate experts to the newly created TARAG to ensure consultation on the campaign products.

4. Any other business

Focal points' knowledge management by the Agency

The Governments invited the Agency to make larger use of focal point knowledge both in the context of the campaign and in general. Focal point can also provide useful insight when it comes to operational activities. The Agency should foster this bottom-up flow of information as well as encourage exchange of best practices also in the framework of the regular focal points meetings. Also focal point should get the EU-OSHA newsletter so far delivered to Board members only.

List of participants

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
1	Jesús ALVAREZ	European Commission
2	Lučka BÖHM	Workers
3	Gertrud BREINDL	Government
4	Kris DE MEESTER	Employers
5	Károly GYÖRGY	Workers
6	Viktor KEMPA	Workers
7	Renārs LŪSIS	Government
8	Esther LYNCH	Workers
9	Stefan OLSSON	European Commission
10	Christa SCHWENG	Employers
11	Charlotte SKJOLDAGER	Government
12	Rebekah SMITH	Employers
13	Christa SEDLATSCHKE	EU-OSHA
14	Jesper BEJER	EU-OSHA
15	William COCKBURN	EU-OSHA
16	Brenda O'BRIEN	EU-OSHA
17	Ilaria PICCIOLI	EU-OSHA
18	Andrew SMITH	EU-OSHA