



## MINUTES

<b>Meeting:</b>	MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 1 June 2017
<b>Time:</b>	08:30-10:00
<b>Venue:</b>	Novotel Luxembourg Kirchberg Hotel 6 Rue Du Fort Niedergruenewald, Kirchberg, Luxembourg

*These notes include the comments made by the different groups and the Commission both at the official Bureau meeting and the informal wrap-up meeting which takes place after the interest group meetings with the view of consolidating positions and views for the plenary session. As much as possible they are meant to complement the discussions, viewpoints and decisions as these are reported in the Governing Board meeting minutes.*

### 1. Draft Agenda (B/17/A2)

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 interests. No Bureau member declared any.

There was no other issues for "Any other business".

CONCLUSION: The draft Agenda was adopted.

### 2. Draft minutes (B/17/M1)

The draft minutes had been circulated previously. There were no additional comments.

CONCLUSION: The draft minutes were adopted.

### 3. Staff implementing rule (B/17/01)

The Agency prepared a decision for the Bureau regarding the EU-OSHA's policy protecting the dignity of the person and preventing psychological harassment and sexual harassment. The policy is identical to the model decision for decentralised agencies and joint undertakings developed between the Agency's work standing party and the Commission. The Commission has given their ex-ante agreement last October.

Before the meeting, the Commission asked the Agency to amend a typo in the model decision, which the Agency did.

CONCLUSION: The Bureau adopted the EU-OSHA's policy protecting the dignity of the person and preventing psychological harassment and sexual harassment.

### 4. Action plan to implement the recommendations of the external evaluation of the Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2014-2015 (B/17/02)

Further to the completion of the Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2014-2015, the Agency commissioned an external ex-post evaluation of the activity, with the objective to assess its relevance, effectiveness, complementarity, EU added value, coherence and impact – among other issues.



The Board got acquainted with the main results of the evaluation at their meeting in January. Further to that, the Agency developed an action plan to tackle the seven recommendations identified in the evaluation report. The action plan, which was also discussed with TARAG and Focal Points, is now presented to the Bureau, which will oversee its implementation.

In particular, one action under recommendation no 1 is aiming at ensuring proper consultation with social partners by the focal point before engaging in campaign-related activities and was welcomed by the Bureau. The Workers asked that the timeline for this action –currently foreseen for Q1 2017 – should change into “on-going” as such consultation has to become a continuous practice.

Finally, the Agency informed that the Bureau would be informed regularly about the action plan implementation at Bureau meetings through the Director’s Progress Report and every year in the activity report.

CONCLUSIONS: The Bureau took note of the action plan related to the external evaluation of the Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2014-2015; the Agency will change the timeline of recommendation no 1 from Q1 2017 to “on-going”.

## 5. Governing Board meeting preparation (G/17/A2)

The main issue discussed under this agenda item was EU-OSHA’s strategic direction after 2020.

The Agency introduced the topic and explained that the first input to this process has been the mid-term evaluation of the current multi-annual strategic programme 2014-2020. The main purpose of the evaluation has been to pinpoint the extent in which the challenges identified in the strategy are still relevant and the actions foreseen by EU-OSHA to meet these challenges are adequate and effective. The Agency presented the main outcomes from the mid-term evaluation, whose report had just been finalised and validated by the evaluation’s steering group, which includes Board members.

The overall conclusions indicate that the majority of EU-OSHA’s stakeholders consider the multi-annual strategic programme as an effective and useful planning document for carrying out the work of the Agency. It has had an overall positive effect on the process of short and medium term planning and on the work of the Agency as a whole and the objectives remain relevant for the current years. It is in line with current OSH policy and will continue to offer added value to EU OSHA and other stakeholders in the coming years and the intervention logic remains relevant.

The Agency also informed the Board on the outcome of the internal discussions which confirm the findings of the evaluation.

On the basis of the evaluation’s conclusions and the internal discussions, the Agency’s suggestion for the Board is that:

- A multi-annual strategic programme should remain as it proved to be a useful resource by helping framing the discussions on the Agency’s work in a more strategic perspective. So it remains relevant despite the obligation under the Financial Regulation to have a three year rolling programming document.
- Taking into account the findings of the evaluation and that there is neither information on EU policy objectives after 2020 nor resource information at the moment, EU-OSHA would suggest to extend the coverage of the current multi-annual strategic programme to 2025 with some minor amendments as indicated in the cover note (chapter 2 on challenges and opportunities; better reflection on EU policy priorities etc.).
- A draft decision on the strategic direction after 2020 is prepared for the November Bureau meeting. Following the Bureau meeting, the decision will be finalised for the Board’s consideration in January.



- A new Multi-annual Financial Framework will be in place (probably in 2019-2020) and once there is information on EU policy objectives after 2020, the new EU-OSHA Regulation and the findings and recommendations from the ongoing four-agencies-evaluation are available, the Board would reconsider the decision on the strategic direction.

In general, the Bureau welcomed the Agency's approach. The Commission, for example, found it wise and very reasonable. There were some concerns, however, especially within the Governments group, about the 5 year-extension. Given the many uncertainties that there are at the moment, it is preferable to take some time when it comes to planning in a long-term perspective. The Bureau would encourage a proposal to the Board whereby the strategy could be extended for a period of three further years – from 2020 to 2023. In particular, the six priority areas which underpin the Agency's work should be maintained. With regard to the content and the topics that could be addressed within the extended strategy period, the Bureau suggested that the Agency should foster discussions within the groups and the Commission in the form of a Planning Seminar as part of the next meeting in January 2018. The Agency should ensure that the discussions are carried out in a structured fashion.

## 6. Any other business

### Stakeholders' consultation in the context of external evaluations

The Bureau observed that lately there had been many requests for input for a number of evaluations – the ones commissioned by the Agency and the one commissioned by the Commission on the four Agencies under DG EMPL's remit. This is at times burdensome for Bureau members, especially because sometimes the same respondents are approached and with similar questions.

The Agency acknowledged the problem and will look into possible solutions to alleviate the consultation process to the extent this is under the Agency's control. However, it should also be recognised that some stakeholders are involved in many Agency activities and therefore will tend to be surveyed more often than others.

The Governments group had three issues under "Any other business".

### Focal Points meeting

The Government group thanked the Agency for having taken into account the request advanced in previous meetings regarding fostering networking of focal points and exchanging of good practices alongside official meetings.

### Good practice ceremony

The agency could consider reverting to the previous practice and ensure that the Good practice awards takes place in conjunction with the Health Workplaces Campaign's closing event.

### EU OSH information systems

The Agency plays an important role as a support to the Commission for the development of EU OSH information systems. Data from monitoring instruments designed to be comparable across countries, such as ESENER are sources for some of the indicators that are used within the systems. This is certainly welcomed but it should be ensured that in future surveys a core set of questions are repeated for comparability over time.



### List of participants

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
1	Jesús ALVAREZ	European Commission
2	Gertrud BREINDL	Government
3	Kris DE MEESTER	Employers
4	Francois ENGELS	Employers
5	Charlotte GREVFORS ERNOULT	European Commission
6	Károly GYÖRGY	Workers
7	Viktor KEMPA	Workers
8	Renars LUSIS	Government
9	Charlotte SKJOLDAGER	Government
10	Andreas STOIMENIDIS	Workers
11	Christa SEDLATSCHKE	EU-OSHA
12	Jesper BEJER	EU-OSHA
13	William COCKBURN	EU-OSHA
14	Brenda O'BRIEN	EU-OSHA
15	Ilaria PICCIOLI	EU-OSHA
16	Andrew SMITH	EU-OSHA