

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2025/12

ON THE UNPAID VISITING EXPERTS PROGRAMME

The EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2019/126 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 January 2019 establishing the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2062/94, and in particular Articles 2(5) and 11(5) a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) EU-OSHA aims to maintain a close dialogue particularly with national or international, public authorities, as well as with academic and research bodies. In order to enhance the close dialogue, in agreement with the sending authorities, EU-OSHA provides visiting experts with the opportunity to collaborate with EU-OSHA's staff at its premises.
- (2) EU-OSHA implements a procedure to evaluate requests for visits with a view to ensuring transparency and equal treatment of the candidates.
- (3) The visiting experts achieve their own research program while they benefit from the direct contact with EU-OSHA staff at its premises and in principle they do not participate in the implementation of EU-OSHA's work programme. The programme therefore should be financially neutral where the sending authorities or the visiting experts cover all incurring costs, while EU-OSHA provides the visiting experts with office space, laptop and access to non-confidential occupational safety and health content,

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Article 1

EU-OSHA may accept applications for hosting visiting experts at its premises for a period of maximum six (6) months. This period may be extended upon request once, by another maximum six (6) month period. Under no circumstances the overall length of the visit can exceed 12 months. EU-OSHA may accept the requests for visit of no more than two visiting experts concerning the same period of time.

Article 2

The call for expression of interest to visit EU-OSHA, when the programme is available, shall be published in EU-OSHA's public website. The applications are evaluated by a selection committee which consists of at least the Head of Unit concerned by the proposed subject-matter of the requested visit as well as one member of EU-OSHA's HR team. Upon recommendation of the selection committee, EU-OSHA's Executive Director may approve the visit.

Article 3

The visiting expert or the sending authority shall bear all costs related to the visit, EU-OSHA shall not financially contribute to any incurring costs. The visiting experts shall be responsible for their health care insurance, including insurance for travel and for accidents.

Article 4

EU-OSHA and the sending authority shall conclude an agreement which contains the most important details of the visit. The visiting experts shall also sign the agreement, accepting its terms. The visiting experts shall also sign confidentiality and liability statements concerning their visits at EU-OSHA.

Article 5

The visiting experts shall be employed by the sending authority during the entire time of the visit. The visit does not create any form of employment relationship between EU-OSHA and the visiting expert, nor create any obligation on EU-OSHA to employ the visiting expert in the future.

Article 6

The visiting experts can pursue their own working programme, approved prior to the visit by EU-OSHA. The visiting experts in principle do not contribute to the implementation of EU-OSHA's annual work programme. The visiting experts may not represent EU-OSHA in any meetings or may not act otherwise in the capacity of an agent of EU-OSHA. In particular, the visiting experts are not allowed to use EU-OSHA's logo, letterhead or email signature form or otherwise appear as an agent of EU-OSHA.

Article 7

EU-OSHA shall provide the visiting experts with laptops and with access to its non-confidential occupational safety and health information.

Article 8

The present Decision shall take effect on the day following that of its adoption.

Done at Bilbao

[e-signed in Ares]

William Cockburn
The Executive Director