

MET Sector Social Dialogue Plenary Meeting

5 December 2024
09:00-16:45

COMMENTED AGENDA

DRAFT

LANGUAGES FOR ACTIVE INTERPRETATION: ENGLISH, ITALIAN, POLISH, FRENCH

LANGUAGES FOR PASSIVE INTERPRETATION: CZECH

Chairs:

- Andreas Edenman, Ceemet Chair, will chair items 1-4
- Reijo Paananen, industriAll Europe, will chair items 5-8

1. (09:00-10:00)

Preparatory meetings (organised separately by each organisation)

The meeting will be held in A. Borschette Centre, 36 rue Froissart, 1040 Brussels, Room 4.A (0.20). The meeting rooms for the preparatory meetings will be announced at the entrance.

2. (10:00 – 10:05)

Welcome and formal approval of the agenda

The agenda will be put forward for formal approval.

3. (10:05 – 10:10)

Statutory issues:

The minutes of the plenary meeting of 7 December 2023 were sent to industriAll and Ceemet members for comments and approval. After consultation with the MET social partners, the minutes were officially submitted to the European Commission.

4. (10.10-12.00)

The 2024-2029 EU priorities for the EU (MET) Industry with a focus on the employment dimension— DG GROW & DG EMPL

- a. Frank Siebern-Thomas, Head of Fair, Green, and Digital Transitions, Research Unit, DG Employment, European Commission and XXXX DG GROW Representative (tbc)

The representatives of DG EMPL and DG GROW will present the Commission's views as regards the EU priorities for the industries for the coming years with a particular focus on the employment dimension.

The presentation will be followed by a roundtable of comments and questions & answers.

Background information:

The European MET industries are the backbone of the European economy and are responsible for more than 16 million direct, and 35 million indirect jobs, in the EU. Over the last few years, the MET sectors and its workforce have faced unprecedented waves of crisis ranging from the lasting effects of the pandemic, to supply chain disruptions that exposed our heavy dependence on others, war in Europe and an energy crisis that has crippled households and industries as well as labour and skills shortages. This multi-faceted crisis needs holistic responses. Support from the European level is more important than ever for the MET sector and the jobs.

Moreover, the industries are also facing the green and digital transformation that represents both a challenges and an opportunity for both workers and companies alike. In this context of major transformation, it is key to ensure the competitiveness of MET companies and the creation of quality jobs in Europe. For Ceemet and industriAll Europe, sectoral social partners play a key role when it comes to addressing the emerging challenges that the world of work is undergoing due to the massive transformation that the industries are experiencing. Indeed, it is well proven that a well-functioning social dialogue contributes to industrial competitiveness and quality jobs.

- b. Reactions by the Social partners: Judith Kirton-Darling, industriAll Europe and Delphine Rudelli, Ceemet

Ceemet and industriAll Europe will comment on the Commission priorities for the MET industries.

- c. Open Discussion

Participants are invited to take the floor to comment on this important topic. As possible members are asked to give their feedback on the following questions:

- 1) What are your views as regards the EU priorities for the industries in the coming years? What is the situation of the industries in your country ?
- 2) What are the measures being put in place at national level to support the industries in this context of major changes ?
- 3) How are you contributing, as social partners, to support the transformation of the industry ?

(12:00 – 13:30) Lunch Break

5. (13:30 – 14:45)

Social Conditionalities Debate: what do social partners mean?

Europe is dealing with massive restructuring, not only in incumbent industries, like the automotive, steel or chemical industry, but also in new, net-zero industries, like the battery or wind energy manufacturing industries. Europe is now on the brink of losing ground in industries in which it is a global market leader.

- a. Secretary industriAll Europe, TBC

industriAll Europe has been campaigning for a European industrial policy fit for the challenges of our time, bound with social conditionalities on all public funding and procurement that ensure the maintenance and creation of good quality jobs and worker participation from plant to international levels. The Secretariat will present industriAll Europe Position on the topic.

- b. Delphine Rudelli, Ceemet

The Secretariat will present Ceemet views on the topic.

- c. Discussion and follow-up

An exchange of views on this topic will follow.

6. (14:45-15:30)

Company Practices to tackle labour shortages

a. Keynote speaker: Mr Tina Weber

Tina Weber, Research Manager at Eurofound will present the recent report that provides updated evidence on the persistence of labour shortages amid declining levels of labour market slack in the EU and at Member State level.

Background information

In recent years, labour shortages have become an increasingly urgent issue across various sectors in Europe, impacting the manufacturing sector. To better understand the drivers and implications of this trend, Eurofound has released a comprehensive study examining the evolving labour market landscape and the factors behind these shortages. This study provides valuable insights into the sectors most affected, the geographical disparities across EU countries, and the skills gaps challenging industries in their search for qualified personnel.

b. Ceemet and industriAll Europe perspective

industriAll Europe and Ceemet will deliver their views regarding this topic.

(15.30 – 16.00) Coffee Break

7. (16:00 – 16:30)

Reports from the working groups and other activities:

- SSD C&E

The Chairs of this WG will present the outcomes of the year 2024.

- SSD E&T

The Chairs of this WG will present the outcomes of the year 2024.

- Approval of the work programmes for 2025

The draft work-programmes for 2025 will be presented and adopted.

8. (16:30 – 16:45)

AOB

a. TRIREME Update

The TRIREME EU funded project fosters robust partnerships across different sectors of the ecosystem, focusing on skills roadmaps, delivering training, and the social dimension.

IndustriAll Europe and Ceemet are leading the work package on the social impact of the continuous transformation in the ecosystem with a particular focus on the automotive sector.

Against this backdrop, the MET social partners are committed to promoting a pro-active and socially responsible approach to anticipating and managing change with an effective social dialogue at all levels and the involvement of workers in the decision-making process when appropriate, ensuring that change is reflected in the long-term strategies of companies, as well as the development of labour-market relevant training policies that take into account companies and workers' needs

Update: the Secretariats will report on the development of the project and on the first social workshop that took place on 4th December.

b. Date 2025

The Social Dialogue meetings in 2025 will take place on the following days:

- 11 March 2025 – Competitiveness & Employment WG (in-person)
- 7 May 2025 – Education & Training WG (online)
- 10 December 2025 – Plenary (in person)
