

**MET Sector Social Dialogue  
Competitiveness and Employment Working Group**

3 March 2026  
09.00-13.00

Commented agenda  
(online meeting)

**08.45-09.05 – Connection to platform**

**09.05 – 09.35 - Preparatory meetings** (industriAll Europe and Ceemet separate meetings)

**09.35 -09.40**

**1. Welcome and approval of the agenda**

The agenda will be formally approved.

**09.40-10.40**

**2. The situation of the automotive sector: navigating the transition in times of crisis**

- a. Presentation of study: Eurofound “**Crisis in the EU automotive industry: Remaining competitive amid the twin transitions**”

Tina Weber, Senior Research Manager will present Eurofound report regarding the current situation of the automotive industry. The report analyses the impact of green and digital transitions on employment, skills, work organisation and working conditions as well as the role of social partners in addressing these challenges.

- b. Views by the Social partners

Ceemet and industriAll Europe will give their views as regards the automotive sector from the industry and workforce perspective.

- c. National examples: role of social dialogue regarding adaptation of the automotive sector to the twin transition

Members are asked to share any national example regarding the role of social dialogue in supporting the adaptation of the automotive sector to the twin transition.

- d. Any follow-up?

To be agreed.

**10.40 – 11.40**

**3. Industrial Accelerator Act with a focus on European Preference**

- a. Presentation by Immavera Sardone (DG GROW Unit I1)

Background

The Commission’s 2025 Work Programme announced a legislative proposal for an [Industrial Accelerator Act](#), first outlined in the Competitiveness Compass earlier that year. The initiative is intended to complement existing instruments by accelerating permitting procedures and facilitating the clean transition of energy-intensive industries, while also supporting the rapid deployment of strategic energy infrastructure projects. The proposal reflects a growing recognition within EU

policymaking that climate targets and market-based instruments alone are insufficient to transform Europe's industrial base at the pace required to remain competitive globally.

A central policy lever under discussion is the creation of stronger demand signals for low-carbon products manufactured in Europe. This would involve introducing minimum proportion or component criteria in public procurement, as well as linking certain state-aid subsidies to the use of European clean technologies or production capacity. The debate around the Act is therefore closely connected to the notion of "EU preferences", sometimes described politically as a "Made in EU" approach. The underlying objective is to ensure that public spending contributes not only to decarbonisation but also to the retention and expansion of industrial production within the Union, particularly in strategic sectors such as batteries, renewable-energy equipment, low-carbon materials, and electrified manufacturing processes. Emerging discussions suggest that access to subsidies or public contracts may increasingly depend on meeting these preference criteria, effectively tying public support to the development of industrial capacity inside Europe.

b. Exchange of views and discussion

industriAll Europe Secretariat will provide its position on the topic.  
National representatives will also be asked to contribute to the discussion.

c. Any follow up?

The Secretariats will decide the next steps based on the open discussion.

**11:40-11:55 Coffee break**

**11.55-12.50**

**4. AI in the MET industries**

a. Presentation of first deliverables of the Ceemet / EEI project on AI@Work

Ceemet will present the Ceemet// EEI project on AI@Work

On 2025, the European Employers Institute started a co-funded project with a research Institute (IW and IFAA) to gain knowledge and information on a topic crucial for companies and the European economy. The project's objectives include providing employers, trade unions, and policymakers with valuable information on the current use of AI through case studies.

The project also includes an analysis of the use of AI within the framework of European regulations, as well as a comparative study with the US and China.

b. industriAll reactions

industriAll Europe will give its position on AI in the MET industry and feedback on the project.

c. Tour the table

Members are invited to share information/examples on how social partners are dealing at national level with the impact of AI on the world of work.

d. Any follow-up?

# Ceemet

European Tech &  
Industry Employers

To be agreed.

**12.50-13.00**

**5. AOB**

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