



SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE HORECA

Draft Minutes of the Plenary meeting

27 November 2020, 9.30 am – 12.45 pm

Video conference meeting

List of participants

Mr. Rieff (European Commission) chaired the meeting.

HOTREC participants		EFFAT participants	
Name	Association	Name	Organisation
Susanne Kraus-Winkler	Austria / APHA	Andreas Gollner	Austria / VIDA
Maria Dinboeck	Austria / APHA	Valerie Kihl	Austria / VIDA
Johanna Scatozza	Belgium / Fédération HORECA Wallonie	Ilse Dockedal	Austria / VIDA
Bernard Zenzerović	Croatia / UPUHH	Benjamin Moest	Belgium / ACV-CSC
Emilie Westersø	Denmark / HORESTA	Panayiotis Ioannides	Cyprus / SEK
Sami Nisametdin	Finland / MaRa	Ernest Wachtl	Czech Republic / CMOS-PHCR
Jean-Marc Banquet d'Orx	France / UMIH	Jens Petter Hagen	Denmark / NU-HRCT
Pierre-Alexandre Naud	France / UMIH	Pilar Rato Rodriguez	Spain / CCOO Servicios
Alexandros Vassilikos	Greece / HCH	Ismo Kokko	Finland / PAM
Vilborg Júlíusdóttir	Iceland / SAF	Christian Juyaux	France / CFDT Services
Adrian Cummins	Ireland / RAI	Pierre Dujourdy	France / CFDT Services
Angelo Giuseppe Candido	Italy / Federalberghi	Peter Schmidt	Germany / NGG
Andrea Chiriatti	Italy / FIPE	Pal Kovacs	Hungary / VISZ
Silvio Moretti	Italy / FIPE	Martin O'Rourke	Ireland / SIPTU
Isabella Debattista	Malta / MHRA	Pim Van Dorpel	Sweden / HRF
Krzysztof Szadurski	Poland / IGHP	Kristjan Bragason	EFFAT
Hilario Asensio	Spain / CEHAT	Kerstin Howald	EFFAT
Emilio Gallego	Spain / CEHE	Enrico Somaglia	EFFAT
Fatima Hollander	Sweden / VISITA	Elke Libbrecht	EFFAT
Hale Altan	Turkey / TTYD		
Marie Audren	HOTREC		
Marta Machado	HOTREC		

Guest speakers:

- Mr Filip TANAY (European Commission, DG EMPL)
- Mr Milosz MOMOT (European Commission, DG GROW)
- Mr Istvan UJHELYI (Member of the European Parliament)
- Mr Panagiotis GKOFAS (European Economic and Social Committee)

1. Welcome and introduction

Mr BRAGASON (Secretary General, EFFAT) and Mr BANQUET D'ORX (HOTREC Social Dialogue Chair) made introductory statements and greeted the participants. Both highlighted the difficult situation in the sector and the need to take decisive action at national and at EU level.

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda of the meeting was approved.

3. Approval of the minutes of the plenary meeting on 29 November 2019

The minutes were approved.

4. Ways forward to overcome the COVID-19 crisis in the hospitality sector – panel discussion with guest speakers:

- **How to get the hospitality sector out of the COVID-19 crisis?**

Mr TANAY (European Commission, DG EMPL) presented the European Commission's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). With a total budget of €672.5 billion, the facility will support Member States to implement national recovery plans and to invest in their national economies. One of key areas will focus on skills. Member States are invited to submit their recovery plans until end of April 2021. The involvement of social partners in the elaboration of the plans is recommended. Once approved by the Council, the RRF will be launched. Mr MOMOT (European Commission, DG GROW) presented further Commission initiatives aimed at supporting the tourism sector.

- **The next steps towards a European Agenda for Tourism 2050**

Mr MOMOT (European Commission, DG GROW) discussed the economic situation in the sector and immediate responses, such as increased flexibility of state aid rules, the SURE programme, Corona Response Investment Initiative. Mr MOMOT highlighted the different measures for coordinated approach to reopen the borders, including testing and safety protocols as well as Re-Open EU and the harmonisation of the different information measures. He furthermore highlighted the needed changes related to sustainability and digitalisation in the sector, which have been discussed in the EU Tourism Convention.

- **The European Parliament response on how to put the hospitality sector back on track**

Mr UJHELYI (Member of the European Parliament) highlighted that there will be a hearing on the future of tourism, organised by the Task Force for the Tourism Sector. In 2021, events focusing on the social and employment aspects of the sector will be organised. Tourism has to be part of the Green Deal. The European Parliament launched the European Parliament Resolution on Transport and Tourism in 2020 and beyond, and asked for a coordinated approach on border restrictions. It further asked for a dedicated budget line for tourism and a common travel guarantee fund. The EP furthermore voted in favour of a preparatory action on the crisis management mechanism. Mr UJHELYI commented that the Commission could have been more supportive with regard to a dedicated budget lines for tourism.

- **Tourism and Transport in 2020 and beyond**

According to Mr GKOFAS (European Economic and Social Committee), the sector was severely hit during 2020 and he highlighted that a common EU approach is needed. Mr GKOFAS pointed out that the agreements and support measures decided at EU level do not reach the sector. A common approach to freedom of movement as well on rescue measures for the sector is needed. He proposes an EU mechanism to monitor the implementation of EU measures in the sector and hopes the EU institutions take this proposal into account.

- **Joint HOTREC-EFFAT Statement on Rebuilding the Hospitality Sector**

EFFAT and HOTREC welcomed the support by the European Commission during the COVID-19 pandemic with support mechanisms, namely RRF, SURE, and Cohesion Funds.

The Joint HOTREC-EFFAT Statement on Rebuilding the Hospitality Sector was adopted and signed. The statement calls for a swift adoption of the recovery plans; urges upon Member States to place the hospitality sector at the heart of the recovery plans; calls for an extension of the emergency measures; recommends the coordination amongst Member States on travel restrictions; and highlights the importance that all companies apply the required health and safety measures, with social partners to be involved in all the procedures.

5. Update on other topics followed by the social partners in 2020

With regard to the Platform economy, social partners exchanged views on the latest EU developments, including the Communication on Shaping Europe's Digital future, the Communication on a European Strategy for Data, Airbnb activities during 2020, as well as the legislative proposal on working conditions of platform workers on which the Commission will start working in 2021.

On the European Alliance for Apprenticeships, social partners agreed to continue encouraging that apprenticeship schemes are developed at national level, specially taking into account the current lack of skilled workers in the sector.

With regard to the Pact for Skills, HOTREC and EFFAT agreed that it would be positive to exchange views on the topic. HOTREC pointed out that regrettably no EU funding had been allocated for micro-enterprises and SMEs. Furthermore, the charter is based on a top-down approach, and not bottom-up, and the red tape related to compulsory reporting and targets does not seem to motivate small companies in the sector to join, especially not under the current crisis circumstances.

On the European Hospitality Skills Passport, social partners regretted that the Commission eliminated the EHSP from the EURES Portal and replaced it with the ESCO taxonomy. The social partners still encourage their members to continue making use of the skills list and to develop similar initiatives at national level.

Social Partners look forward to the organisation of the sector-specific seminar on undeclared work in the Horeca sector under the umbrella of the European Platform Tackling Undeclared Work planned for 2021.

Following an update on the state of affairs of the EFFAT project on sexual harassment and violence, HOTREC supported, in general terms, the overall message, and in general, the recommendations, and underlined that the issue should be addressed at company level.

6. Latest policy developments and initiatives in the field of employment and social affairs

Mr RIEFF (European Commission, DG EMPL) gave a short update of the latest Commission initiatives relates to employment and social affairs. He highlighted, among others, the main developments of the European Commission support to mitigate unemployment risks in an emergency (SURE), the proposal for a minimum wage initiative and the skills pact.

7. HOTREC-EFFAT Work Programme 2021-2022

The HOTREC-EFFAT work programme was adopted.