

**46<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee on Health and Social Services  
14 March 2017**

9:00-16:30

**Brussels, ITUH, Room B**

Boulevard du Roi Albert II, 5, 1210 Brussels

<http://www.epsu.org/article/2017-14-march>

**ANNOTATED AGENDA (as of 6 March 2016)**

**Summary information on what needs to be done under the agenda items**

- Documents are to be adopted under agenda items 2, 3 and 5.2
- Documents are to be noted under agenda items 2 and 5.1
- Decisions are to be taken under agenda items 6.1 and 7.1
- Orientations for EPSU's work are to be given under agenda items 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3
- Documents and links on the issues included under agenda item 9 "Background information" will not be dealt with at the meeting due to time constraints. Colleagues interested in a particular topic can, however, ask questions at the meeting or by mail prior to the meeting.

**1. Welcome, announcements, apologies**

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

- The draft agenda (available in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) is to be adopted.
- The annotated agenda (prepared in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) is to be noted.

**3. Adoption of minutes, 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting SC HSS, 22 September 2016, Brussels**

- The draft minutes of the last SC HSS (in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) are to be adopted.

**4. Exchange with Jan Willem Goudriaan, General Secretary, EPSU: Work in Health and Social Services in the context of EPSU's Work Programme:** Priority issues, first assessment, outlook for 2017 to 2019 and preparation of EPSU Congress 2019

Exceptionally we have not foreseen a mutual exchange at this SC HSS. Halfway through the congress period 2014-2019 we instead foresee an exchange with EPSU's General Secretary Jan Willem Goudriaan. Following an introduction by Margret Steffen colleagues are invited to share their views on achievements made in the framework of the Work Programme SC HSS 2015-2016 and/or in the context of the Thematic Priorities Social Services 2015-2016. This "exercise" should also be done with having the update of both documents up to EPSU's 10<sup>th</sup> Congress in June 2019 in mind. At the next SC HSS on 21 September 2017 the EPSU Secretariat will give an overview on the work done, the main results/outcomes/deliverables and outstanding issues. Following the input from EPSU affiliates Jan Willem Goudriaan will be asked to react and also to set out his plans and priorities in the run towards the EPSU's 10<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Colleagues who would like to share any information of broader interest to other EPSU affiliates can send it to Mathias Maucher who will then share it on the [webpage](#) set up for this SC HSS.



In December 2016 the EPSU Secretariat had shared the country report for Latvia elaborated by the “European Semester Alliance” EPSU is part of. This was done to illustrate with a concrete country example – here: Latvia – this effort of trade unions and civil society organisations to influence the European Semester/European Economic Governance. The aim is to present alternative data, analyses and country-specific recommendations. Similar reports are being currently finalised for Bulgaria, Ireland, Portugal and Spain.

## **5. Sectoral Social Dialogue in the Hospital Sector (SSDC HS)**

This [article](#) summarises the speeches given at the ceremony celebrating 10 years of European sectoral social dialogue in the hospital/health care sector. The Director Generals Servoz (DG EMPL) and Prats Monné (DG SANTE) participated. The table with the main outcomes and the presentation of the highlights from the SSDC HS 2006-2016 is also uploaded to this page.

Mathias Maucher will refer to three documents – the [Communication \(2017\) 12](#), an [evaluation](#) and a [guide for employers](#) – published by the EC on 10 January 2017 in relation to planned EU legislative and policy initiatives in the field of occupational health and safety (OSH). They constitute the framework for future work on OSH not least in the context of the SSDC HS.

**5.1 Summary Information on EPSU-HOSPEEM Project (2017-2018)** “Promoting effective recruitment and retention policies for all health workers in the EU by ensuring access to continuing professional development and healthy and safe workplaces supportive of patient safety and quality care”

A [long](#) and short version of summary information on the project has been shared. The same holds for all reference documents from the previous project with HOSPEEM. The kick-off meeting with the two Steering Groups took place on 28 February 2017. The EPSU Secretariat will report back on the outcome of the discussions there and at the WG 1/2017 SSDC HS as regards the thematic priorities for the first conference on CPD on 19 and 20 June 2017. The colleagues are invited to give feedback on the list of topics identified by HOSPEEM and EPSU members. They will also be asked to react to the list of already proposed contributions and/or to come up with additional proposals. A separate file to document the outcomes of the exchanges so far will be uploaded under agenda item 5.1 on 8 March 2017. A vivid exchange involving many EPSU affiliates could replace the short survey on thematic priorities in the field of CPD and topics that should be covered at the conference foreseen in the context of the project.

The SC HSS is invited to note requests for a footnote in the document and on the [page](#) the Joint EPSU-HOSPEEM Declaration “CPD and LLL for all health workers in the EU” is uploaded to take into account ambiguous/misleading translations of the term “common responsibility”.

**5.2 Work Programme SSDC HS 2017-2019:** Update on revised/final version – Exchange on how to support the work on the priority topics for EPSU

A revised version of the Work Programme for the SSDC HS for the years 2017 to 2019 was discussed and agreed upon at the WG 1/2017 SSDC HS on 27 February 2017. The phrase “Understanding and promotion of the role of social partners on delivering a consistent approach towards health care support staff” was added in the columns “Objectives” and “Deliverables” of

the first topic on p. 1. “Digitalisation” is now explicitly mentioned here too as well as under the third main topic, “CPD and LLL”. The sub-themes under the heading “Recruitment and retention” are presented in the order of priority, with only the two sub-themes on p. 1 agreed upon as “obligatory”. The following sub-themes can/will be taken up if time allows. The timing for these sub-themes is insofar only indicative. No specific action is currently foreseen under the fourth main topic “Health Care Policy & Hospital and Health Care Sector Workforce” (to be considered as “horizontal topics”). Colleagues are asked to endorse the HOSPEEM-EPSU Work Programme SSSC HS 2017-2019 with the amendments as explained above. The version of 27 February 2017 is currently being translated into FR, DE, ES, RU and SV.

## 6. EPSU Activities/Initiatives

**6.1 ver.di-EPSU Workshop “Safe and adequate staffing in international comparison”, 16 November 2016, Berlin:** Report (by Jane Lawless, Expert) – Exchange on main insights and conclusions from workshop – Decision on next steps

A 3-page report from the workshop (available in [EN](#), [FR](#) and [DE](#)) has been drafted by our expert Jane Lawless. A detailed document can be accessed on this [page](#). In her input to debate possible follow-up activities by EPSU Jane Lawless will also present a number of proposals she elaborated. Margret Steffen, ver.di, Germany will share key messages and conclusions from the seminar from a detailed report (in DE, with a summary in EN) that is currently being finalised. Additional presentations and various background documents have been shared, too.

**6.2 European Action Day against the privatisation, marketisation and commercialisation of health care, 7 April 2017:** Presentation of planned activities – Involvement of EPSU affiliates

Yves Hellendorff, CNE Non-Marchand, Belgium and Mathias Maucher will introduce the planned activities in the context of the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Action Day on World Health Day 2017 (7 April).

- EPSU affiliates are kindly invited to support these activities and to engage in them.
- For more details see the [mail](#) sent by the EPSU Secretariat on 2 March 2017.
- This webpage [“Our health is not for sale”](#). was updated and improved. It should serve to collect and present further evidence. All EPSU affiliates are asked to fill in additional information that then will be fed into a conference at the EP on 6 or 7 June 2017.

**6.3 PSI Health Task Force, 12 and 13 December 2016, Geneva: Coordination of joint work/activities with PSI** (with input from Baba Aye, PSI Policy Staff Health and Social Services), including 1) on the Report of the UN High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth (19 September 2016), 2) the PSI Campaign “Human Right to Health” and 3) the ILO Tripartite Sectoral Meeting “Improvement of Employment and Working Conditions in Health Services”, 24-28 April 2017, Geneva

Baba Aye, PSI Policy Officer HSS, will introduce these three items. He will focus on proposals for the implementation of the PSI Campaign “Human Right to Health” in the European region.

**6.4 Outlook on Working Group “Social Services”, 15 March 2017**

The next meeting of the WG Social Services has been built around three main topics:

- Trade union action to address the challenges/impacts of the provision of social services by private (for-profit and not-for-profit) providers. This covers EPSU's work with multi-national companies in social services. The main aim here is to facilitate the mutual exchange of information and experiences amongst EPSU affiliates.
- New forms/models of care and their impact on the (systems of) provision of services, their quality and the workforce. We will start with a closer look on integrated care and a guest speaker to illustrate coordinated efforts by EU-level networks of civil society organisations to influence EU policies and EU-level funding possibilities (e.g. via the ESF) without, however, focusing on the impacts on the workforce in social care services. We will then touch upon trade union work to address the challenges and opportunities related to the digitalisation of social care, also building on experiences of EPSU affiliates. As third aspect updates on EU-level initiatives by CEN for EU-level standardisation/technical standards in health and elderly care services will be given.
- Promotion of social dialogue in social services: The main purpose here is to share relevant updates on past and forthcoming activities and events in the context of the PESSIS III Project and to coordinate the orientation of EPSU's policy work and project-related involvement.

## 7. EU Policy and Legal Initiatives

**7.1 Feasibility Study on a Common Training Framework (CTF) for Health Care Assistants (FS CC4HCA):** Assessment of Final Report – Exchange and decision on format and focus of further work on issue

EPSU and HOSPEEM plan to draft a joint letter to react on the final report of the [Feasibility Study](#) DG SANTE announced to publish soon. It should refer to documents already agreed upon and underline EPSU's and HOSPEEM's support to the conclusions formulated by [NIVEL](#) and the EC not to pursue – for the time being – any action towards elaborating a CTF for HCA. EPSU affiliates are asked for their feedback and (principal) approval. The draft letter will also be shared with a number of colleagues. More information on this dossier can be accessed on the pages [SSDC HS 2 June 2016](#), [SC HSS 22 September 2016](#) and [SSDC HS 2 December 2016](#).

## 8. AOB & Dates of next meetings/events

The dates of the forthcoming meetings in 2017 are included in the draft agenda. A regularly updated complete overview of relevant dates can be accessed on the following [page](#).

## 9. Background information on issues NOT covered, but referred to in the Annex to the Annotated Agenda

For the issues listed in the Annotated Agenda, a separate file has been produced (in EN only).

Mathias Maucher  
Brussels  
6 March 2017