



Third meeting of the European Labour Authority Working Group on Inspections 27 April 2020

- Summary of the deliberations -

The Experts appointed by the ELA Management Board Members met in videoconference on 27 April 2020 for the third meeting of the ELA Working Group on Inspections. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the COVID-19 impact on cross-border activities, to reflect on the updated versions of the three draft deliverables after the last meeting, to continue the discussion on the development of Key Performance Indicators, to start developing criteria for the evaluation of requests for inspection and to give input on the future supporting and training needs for the ELA work on inspections.

During the meeting, the Commission delivered a short presentation of the Guidelines issued to preserve the (cross-border) free movement of workers, goods and services during the COVID-19 crisis and to lift the containment measures in a gradual and coordinated manner. The Commission also presented the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on planned activities like the Week of Action of the #EU4FairWork campaign, which has been postponed to 21-25 September 2020.

ELA confirmed the possibility to support the organisation of pilot inspections during the Week of Action and it suggested, in the short term, a shift from cross-border joint inspections to concerted inspections in order to continue cooperating despite the current travel limitations.

Model Agreement for concerted and joint inspections

The Experts welcomed the third draft of the Model Agreement, which now includes only the essential elements. The Experts also decided that only one of the attached documents would remain as an annex to the Model Agreement. This will be the Inspection Plan template, containing all the necessary additional information and practical arrangements to carry out a concerted or joint inspection. The Case Description template (formerly Annex 1) will be used as template to request a concerted or joint inspection. The national practices tables (formerly Annex 3) will become part of the handbook to be developed in the coming months.

Post-inspection report

The Working Group recognised the value of the Post-inspection report as not only a means of accounting for the concerted or joint activities, but also for reflecting on, and potentially improving, ELA operations and the inspection process using indicators and lessons learned. The Experts proposed few amendments to be reflected in the next version.

Workflow guidance documents

The Experts finalised the discussions on the draft Workflow Guidance documents for Member States, ELA and social partner organisations at national level. Following the last remarks and amendments, the updated version of the documents will be presented at the next meeting.

Key Performance Indicators

The Working Group continued the discussions on KPIs to be used by ELA in the context of concerted and joint inspections. The ELA presented some possible Key Performance Indicators. These will be used by ELA to inform Member States, stakeholders and general

public about its activities, results and use of resources, including with the Authority's annual activity report and with the report to be presented to the Management Board, as well as to the Stakeholder Group, twice a year. During the meeting, the Experts discussed the proposed KPIs, suggesting the addition of qualitative indicators (effectiveness, prevention, added value of the concerted and joint inspections). The discussion will continue in the next meeting, where Member States may present their experience developing and using KPIs.

Developing criteria for ELA to evaluate requests for inspections

The ELA presented a number of possible criteria for assessing the cases proposed for ELA support. There should be an eligibility criterion, to verify if the case has a cross-border dimension and if it falls under the scope of ELA. Other criteria should cover both quantitative and qualitative aspects. The discussion will continue in the next meeting.

Future supporting and training needs for the ELA work on inspections in 2020/2021

The Working Group provided some initial input on the needs of ELA in terms of consultancy services and training activities for 2020 and 2021. The ELA Work Programme 2020 includes a budget of 150 000 EUR for arrangements and tools, including consultancy services, and 100 000 EUR for learning and training activities. The discussion on the possible tenders to be launched later this year will continue in the next meeting.

General remarks

ELA will present the updated versions of all the draft documents at the next meeting, currently planned for 9 June 2020.