

Fifth meeting of the European Labour Authority Working Group on Information 2 March 2021

- Summary of deliberations -

The ELA Working Group on Information held its fifth meeting on 2 March 2021 by video conference.

The agenda included five items, the results of which are reported in the following.

1. ELA Introduction – Welcome by ELA Executive Director

Mr Cosmin Boiangiu, ELA Executive Director, addressed the Working Group for the first time after taking up his duties. He thanked Members of the Group for their contribution and commitment so far, stressed the importance of the ELA's task on information, and within it peer review of single national websites on posting of workers. He also referred to the ELA's awareness raising campaign for seasonal workers, which is one of ELA's priority activities this year, and expressed his expectation of Member States' involvement in this regard.

2. Single websites on posting: peer review session

The Authority presented the objectives of the peer review, which are to analyse the solutions adopted by different websites in presenting information, stimulating constructive group reflection, and exchanging practices for the inspiration of all Member States.

The peer review covered selective analysis of the information provided on the following aspects of posting legislation: remuneration, long-term posting, sanctions, and declaration obligations. Four single national websites on posting (NL, FR, FI, IT) were reviewed – contributions regarding each website were made by one Member State, Commission and social partners. In general, good quality of websites was underlined although there is still room for improvement (in particular as it comes to available languages and need for detailed information on remuneration). Important role for the ELA Translation Facility was underlined by the experts in the context of improving the quality of websites.

Detailed Review Reports are to be prepared by the Information Support Service. ELA will continue with the process of coordinating and carrying out written reviews of the next three single national websites (DE, ES, LT).

3. ELA draft approaches to the presentation of information on long-term posting, notification obligations and penalties

Following the endorsement by the Group of the approach to presenting collective agreements on single posting websites, ELA has prepared further tools to facilitate the presentation of necessary information on the websites. The Authority introduced its proposed approaches on presenting of information on long-term posting, notification obligations and penalties on national websites on posting. The Authority stressed the non-binding nature of the documents and their aim to provide a flexible methodology to inspire

Member States with a method on how to present the information concerning these relevant areas. While the Experts received the drafts in an overall positive manner, they will send further comments in writing. The aim is for the Group to adopt the approaches at the next meeting, in June.

4. Translation Facility: presentation of new operational modalities

Members were informed of the new system, which will be in place as from 1 July 2021. Member States will have to directly upload their requests onto the online portal of the Translation Centre. ELA will continue to screen and approve each request while monitoring expenditures from the budget allocated to each Member State. Before 30 April 2021 Members are requested to indicate a national coordinator for translation process.

5. Awareness campaign on seasonal workers

ELA introduced its Comprehensive Action Plan on Seasonal Work that will mainly target the agri-food sector because of the particular challenges affecting seasonal workers in this sector. However Member States can decide to extend to further sectors, e.g. through the EURES network. ELA presented to the Group proposed objectives, principles, deliverables and messages of the campaign as well as its roadmap.

Commission mentioned hearing with social partners concerning seasonal work to take place on 26 March and committed to multiply the ELA's campaign.

Experts underlined the need to concentrate on COVID impact in the campaign (proper information on the COVID regimes in different MS should be provided as well as on the vaccination process). Experts have been requested to inform ELA about National Contact Points for the campaign.

6. Any other business

The Authority informed the Members of the future steps in the peer review process.

ELA mentioned some next steps in the preparation of seasonal workers campaign: call for participants of Workshop on outreach and dissemination strategy (25 March) and indication of campaign contact point.

The Authority informed the Group also about possible items for discussion at the next meeting of the Group which will include: road transport issues, stock-taking from peer review session, posting of workers (endorsing draft approaches, role of National Liaison Offices), stock-taking of campaign on seasonal workers.

Date of next meeting: 2 June 2021