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JOBS AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

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Brussels, **10. 07. 2023**
Ares(2023) 6392906

Dear Mr Goudriaan,
Dear Mr Rossi,
Dear Mr Tomschizek,

Thank you for the joint request submitted on 7th July 2021 to the Commission by EPSU and Social Employers, to which CEMR later adhered, concerning the establishment of a European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the social services sector.

My services have analysed the request and the annexed documents, as well as the additional information you provided to the Commission over the last months. After a thorough examination, we have concluded that EPSU, Social Employers and CEMR fulfil the criteria set up in the Commission Decision (EC) No 500/1998 on the establishment of Sectoral Dialogue Committees promoting the Dialogue between the social partners at European level.

I am pleased to inform you that the Commission decided to establish a European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Social Services. I would like to recall the successful work jointly carried out by your organizations so far. These joint achievements demonstrate your proactive approach and genuine commitment to tangible outcomes.

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Mr Jan Willem Goudriaan, General Secretary
EPSU – European Public Service Union
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Mr Fabrizio Rossi, Secretary General
CEMR - ouncil of European Municipalities and Regions
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Mr Gregor Tomschizek, President
Social Employers
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The Commission highlighted the importance of the social services sector in the European care strategy and the Committee is bound to play a fundamental role in its implementation. Your sector is vital for our societies and has at the same time an enormous economic and job creation potential. I am convinced that the new Committee will bring real added value to both employers and workers in the sector and contribute to improving the situation in the sector in areas such as working conditions, attractiveness of the sector, retaining workforce, and upskilling and reskilling of workers.

The creation of the Committee is also a concrete expression of our commitment to further strengthen sectoral social dialogue at EU level as underlined in the Commission social dialogue initiative adopted earlier this year. I understand that there are strong links between social services and other sectors; it is therefore very important that your Committee works cooperatively with other committees covering similar or linked areas, avoiding overlaps and ensuring synergies. I would like to reiterate the Commission call to all sectoral social dialogue committees to strive to be inclusive, maintain and increase representativeness.

My services will be in touch with you shortly to discuss the practical arrangements following the establishment your committee. I wish you every success in your joint work.

Yours sincerely,



Nicolas Schmit

Annex: Commission decision setting up the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Social Services

c.c.:

Mr Klaus Heeger, CESI Secretary General
Mr Oliver Roethig, UNI-Europa Regional Secretary
J. Korte, Director General, DG EMPL
S. Olsson, Deputy Director General, DG EMPL
J. Tagger, Head of Unit, DG EMPL/C3