



Thursday, 30 April 2009

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

As you probably know, Ms. Jean Lambert's (Greens/EFA) own initiative report on **Active Inclusion** will be voted in the EP plenary next Tuesday, May 5th, after it has been adopted by the EMPL committee on March 31st.

We strongly urge you to support this report, which is key for the effective implementation of the integrated approach that the EC Active Inclusion Recommendation is proposing, in terms of inclusive employment, adequate income support and access to quality services.

Ms. Lambert's report is the result of hard work and extensive consultations with all political groups in the European Parliament. Moreover, this report has benefited from comprehensive input from social NGOs, such as the Social Platform and the European Anti-Poverty Network. **It thus incorporates a wide range of views, including those of stakeholders, represented by their organizations.**

It is important to bet now on integrated approaches. The Jean Lambert report strongly endorses the emphasis given to **the key role of ensuring an adequate income for a dignified life**, based on the 1992 Council Recommendation, and the need to **challenge the current focus on punitive conditionality in current activation policies**, which are driving more people in poverty into hardship, in a context where jobs are under threat. Moreover, it supports the need for **access to quality services**, including by proposing a Framework Directive for Social Services of General Interest.

We strongly urge you to vote in favour of this report at the upcoming plenary.

We thank you in advance for your support towards a fairer, more socially cohesive Europe, and we remain at your disposal for any additional clarifications or requests for information.

With best regards,

Fintan Farrell
Director, European Anti-Poverty Network