**EU INCLUSION STRATEGIES GROUP**

**Employment SubGroup**

***Minutes***

*8 February 2014*

*Attending:* Marina Koukou (EAPN CY), Katherine Duffy (EAPN UK), Hélder Ferreira (EAPN PT), Iris Alexe (EAPN RO), Kärt Mere (EAPN EE), Sonja Leemkuil (EAPN NL), Kamila Płowiec (EAPN PL), Maciej Kucharczyk (AGE Platform) + Amana Ferro & Rebecca Lee (EAPN Secretariat)

*Apologies:* Ryszard Szarfenberg (EAPN PL), Kiira Nauts (EAPN EE)

*Facilitator:* Marina Koukou (EAPN CY)

*Rapporteur:* Hélder Ferreira (EAPN PT)

**Introduction**

Minutes adopted.

**Quality Work Explainer**

Summary discussion:

* Difficult to make it shorter, it is already very minimal; cutting more would mean cutting important content;
* Look into taking out qualifying words, even if this won’t reduce the number of pages;
* Directives were not mentioned in the text – so discrimination directive not in there, can’t be added;
* Suggestion to update documents in their online form;
* To send it to EU ISG for endorsement, than Amana to give ok for translation;
* Networks to send translated version to Amana, to put on the website.
* ***Amana to try to reduce further, following Katherine’s suggestions.***
* ***All networks to start translating the summary when final – not just members of the SubGroup!***
* ***All networks to send the translation to EAPN, so it can be put online.***
* ***If anyone wishes to receive hard copies of the*** [***Explainer in English***](http://www.eapn.eu/en/news-and-publications/publications/eapn-books/eapn-s-explainer-on-quality-of-work-and-employment-is-out)***, drop Amana a line.***

Dissemination ideas:

- Portugal: linking this document with the reference budget project, on the question of low pay; we will use this in seminars and activities connected to what we are already doing on quality work;

- UK: there is a lot of media attention to quality work, but the Government says that any job is a stepping stone towards quality work, which makes it difficult to lobby otherwise.

- EU level: use it in the context of the European elections to raise awareness of the candidates; - use it to get ideas for input into the NRPs and the CSRs; use it in the upcoming Mid-Term Review (potential revision of the targets and the Guidelines); try to use it to influence the current revision of the quality work concept by the European Commission;

* ***The Secretariat will send it to the EMCO secretariat,***
* ***Networks to send it to their EXCO members – original in English, as well as summary in their language.***

**Update on the Decent Work Task Force / Living Wage Campaign**

The Task Force met on 11 December 2013 in Brussels. EAPN UK / Scotland made a presentation about the Scottish campaign, and a discussion ensued about how to best adopt/adapt the model. It was decided that the Task Force will concentrate on two main deliverables: a concept and Feasibility Note, detailing whether and how this campaign could be implemented across EAPN, and a Campaign Guide, to provide support, as well as potentially other campaign materials, for the implementation. The second meeting of the Task Force is on 28 February 2014 in Brussels, and it will focus on the content of these two deliverables. These will then be drafted starting with March, and will be finalized and endorsed at the final meeting (probably at the beginning of June). A full presentation of the Task Force’s work will be made at the EU ISG meeting in October.

In order to be able to make a credible and accurate assessment of how feasible such a campaign would be for EAPN networks, the Task Force has dispatched a questionnaire, in order to collect baseline information about the relevance of the topic, as well as campaigning capabilities, in different countries. The questionnaire was sent to the EXCO, to be forwarded to the people in each network which are in charge of running campaigns. Results are expected by 21 February.

It was also discussed that, in view of budgetary constraints, the last meeting of the Task Force could be coupled with a small event to launch the EAPN Explainer on Quality Work and Employment – as the Task Force and the Explainer are both about Decent Work, even if they have different approaches and focus on different elements of the topic.

**Other updates**

*In-Work Poverty*

The paper was printed and launched at the Annual Convention of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion, in a side-event attended by over 100 people, co-organised by EAPN with two other Brussels-based organisations ([ENSIE](http://www.ensie.org/) and [EASPD](http://www.easpd.eu/)). You can access the paper on the EAPN website [here](http://www.eapn.eu/images/stories/docs/EAPN-position-papers-and-reports/2013-EAPN-in-work-poverty-position-paper-web.pdf), and see all information about the event [here](http://www.eapn.eu/en/news-and-publications/news/eapn-news/working-and-poor-eapn-launches-position-paper-on-in-work-poverty-at-the-annual-convention-of-the-european-platform-against-poverty-and-social-exclusion).

*Troika Task Force paper*

The paper was printed and released on the [EAPN website](http://www.eapn.eu/en/news-and-publications/publications/eapn-position-papers-and-reports/new-eapn-report-on-troika-programmes-and-impact-lifeboat-or-life-sentence), together with its Annexes. No launch event has taken place yet, we are looking into promoting the document at different events.

*Social Platform Employment Working Party*

This group was terminated, alongside with all other Social Platform Working Groups, due to a change in the Platform’s structures and ways of working.

* ***Members are encouraged to publicise the EAPN Explainer on Quality of Work and Employment, the Troika Task Force Report, and the In-Work Poverty paper through social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) and any other appropriate channels.***

**Tour de Table about national priorities & Planning ahead**

Again, there was no time to discuss these issues at the SubGroup’s meeting.

* ***SubGroup members to send short updates about their country by email, as well as ideas about other topics that this group could focus on in 2014***