



European Platform Undeclared Work

Outputs of the fifth plenary meeting of the European Platform tackling undeclared work 18-19 October 2018, Brussels

18 October 2018 – Thematic discussion on ‘Tackling under-declared employment in the EU’

Separate report to follow.

19 October 2018 – Ordinary Plenary meeting

ITEM 1 and 2: Opening remarks and adoption of outputs from Plenary meeting 8-9 March 2018

The agenda of the meeting was adopted. The draft report of the last Plenary session on the preventative approach, focusing upon service vouchers and awareness raising, and the outputs of the fourth plenary session on 8-9 March 2018 were adopted and will be published on the Platform’s website¹.

ITEM 3: Reports from workshops ‘thematic discussion on under-declared work’

Two rapporteurs presented the discussions at the workshops - Workshop 1 on ‘tackling conventional under-declared employment’ and Workshop 2 on ‘tackling new and emerging forms of under-declared work’. The findings and main conclusions of the thematic discussions will be presented in the separate report indicated above.

ITEM 4: Update on the European Labour Authority (ELA)

The Commission’s proposal for ELA is being discussed in the Council and European Parliament. The objective is to establish it in 2019, before the European elections.

ITEM 5: Discussion and adoption of the 2019-2020 Work Programme

The proposed 2019-2020 work programme, developed by the dedicated working group in 2018, was presented by the Platform Secretariat. Clarifications were made in terms of timings, focus and fit with ELA priorities. The work programme was adopted and will be published on the Platform’s website.

Hans Van Weeren, NL was appointed working group leader of the working group ‘Developing an IMI module for UDW/data sources and tools for inspectors’, activity 3. One of the co-chairs will lead the working group ‘Information campaign’ activity 1.

ITEM 6: Discussion and adoption of biennial Platform report

The biennial report is a legal obligation of the Platform and will be presented to the European Parliament and Council. The biennial report was adopted.

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/udw>

ITEM 7: Reporting from working group "Concepts and Shared Understanding - Glossary of Terms"

An updated and more detailed glossary has been produced by the dedicated working group. A few technical suggestions for additional footnote information were proposed and agreed. One proposal on differentiating the definitions of joint and concerted inspections is postponed until the text of the ELA legal text is agreed. The glossary and related report will be published on the Platform's webpages.

ITEM 8: Cooperation with the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC)

At the March 2018 Plenary meeting, it was proposed that SLIC should have access to the Platform's collaborative workspace if a reciprocal arrangement could be made. Due to timing of the committee meeting, this has not yet been discussed, and will be raised again at the next SLIC meeting in May 2019, if not before.

ITEM 9: Election of Platform Bureau

Mr Renārs Lūsis, LV (the incumbent co-chair) and Ms Luisa Maria Guimarães, PT were elected as co-chairs of the Platform.

ITEM 10: Decision on sector mix for invitations of social partners' organisations to be granted observer status

It was agreed that the social partner observers will be nominated by the social partners. The seven organisations proposed by the trade unions are accepted. The six employer representative organisations are accepted. There is one empty employer observer seat which can be proposed at the next Plenary meeting.

ITEM 11: Information points and endorsement of Platform documents

11a: Annual Survey of Platform Activities

The Platform Secretariat presented the results of the satisfaction survey. This is an internal document and will be shared on the collaborative workspace. Additional analysis of the 'observer' function of the Platform will be considered for the next survey.

11b: Tackling Undeclared Work in the Agricultural Sector

Comments on this report were requested within one week, prior to publication on the Platform's webpages. This report will feed into the first Seminar of the new work programme (Activity 20). Platform members were requested to contribute examples of interesting practice to the seminar.

11c: 2018 European Platform Undeclared Work Survey

The report was accepted and will be published on the Platform's webpages. Platform members were requested to review the complaint reporting information on the webpages² and to inform the Secretariat if changes are required. This can also be done in the next survey (Spring 2019).

11d: Toolkit: Information tools and approaches to reach out to workers and companies in the fight against undeclared work

² <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1417&langId=en>

The toolkit is being finalised, with helpful comments received from a group of Platform members. It will be published on the Platform webpages.

11e: Toolkit: Risk Assessments for more efficient inspections as means to tackle undeclared work

The document is in draft format. Platform members were reminded to review Figure 2 on Page 16 of the draft toolkit in relation to indicators/red flags and to inform the Secretariat within a week if there are any issues concerning confidentiality.

ITEM 12: Report 'Protecting migrant workers from exploitation in the EU: boosting workplace inspections', European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

A FRA representative presented the findings of a recent study which made recommendations on methods to conduct inspections which involve migrant workers. Further research will explore this matter in a Platform study (Activity 21 of the new work programme) and will be discussed in a later Plenary meeting.

ITEM 13: Presentation by Structural Reform Support Service (SRSS) on technical assistance in tackling undeclared work

A SRSS representative presented the instruments which can be supported by the SRSS funding mechanism. SRSS is a Commission services established in 2015, that provide and coordinate technical support to the preparation, design, implementation and evaluation of growth-enhancing reforms. The deadline for the current round is 31 October 2018 but a new funding round will be available in 2019. Reform projects in the undeclared work area are eligible.

AOB

Platform members and observers were reminded to opt-in to the Platform newsletter email following GDPR requirements.

Three short videos of the Platform were presented and will be distributed via social media channels. Platform members are encouraged to share these widely.

The next Platform seminar on Agriculture will take place on 24 January 2019.

The date of the next Plenary meeting is 12-13 March 2019, Brussels.
