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<td><strong>Title:</strong></td>
<td>Report Meeting with EPSU</td>
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<td><strong>Author:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Purpose:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Distribution:</strong></td>
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Meeting EPSU
Rue Joseph II, 40, 1040 Brussels
14 January 2013 14 :30 – 16 :30

Participants :
Carola Fischbach-Pyttel, EPSU General Secretary
Richard Pond, EPSU Officer for Collective Bargaining
Mathias Maucher, EPSU Officer for Health & Social Services
Enrico Reginato, FEMS President
Brigitte Jencik, AEMH EU Liaison Officer

After presentation of the participants, Carola Fischbach reported on the failure of the negotiations with their counter-part of social partners on a possible revision of the European Working Time Directive. The last meeting took place 4th December.

EPSU expressed their disappointment on the negative attitude of the employers, who did not make any acceptable proposal. The general impression is that the trend is rather to less European involvement and even against collective agreements. The commission even threatened with a withdraw of the directive as a whole.

The current directive and the ECJ rulings remain European law. It is to be feared that even more countries (currently 16 !) will apply the opt-out.

The Commission does not seem to be prepared to come with a new draft proposal, in the light of the election for European Parliament in 2014.

Both social partners communicated very briefly on the outcome, there has been no communication at all from the commission.

Conclusion: EPSU and FEMS keep in contact on an informative and consultative basis.

Mathias Maucher expressed his concern on the situation in Slovakia and Czech Republic, which he fears will also gain neighbour countries. Concerning Slovakia, he explained that their Slovak member did expressively ask not take any action towards the national authorities.
EPSU and FEMS will follow up closely and agreed on mutual information.

EPSU shares the position of the EMOS against standardisation of medical services and is interested to follow-up on FEMS initiative for minimum standards of health care services.