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1. Draft EU Directive on Services: position of the Council of the EU and timeline

On 24 July 2006, the Council of the European Union adopted its Common Position on the services directive. Article 2 (k) still excludes private security services from the scope of the directive. Private security is again mentioned in article 38 (b) concerning additional harmonisation (previous article 40).

The text of the Common Position can be found at the following link:

http://www.eu2006.fi/news_and_documents/conclusions/vko30/en_GB/1153803946796/ .

Proposed timetable:

- Exchange of views: 4 September 2006 (in Strasbourg)
- Consideration of draft recommendation for Second Reading: 13 September 2006
- Deadline for amendments: 20 September 2006
- Second consideration of draft recommendation for Second Reading: 4/5 October 2006
- Consideration of amendments: 9/10 October 2006
- Vote in IMCO: 23 October 2006 (in Strasbourg)
- Vote in Plenary: week of the 13th of November (Strasbourg)

2. CoESS Extraordinary General Meeting and Ordinary Annual General Meeting – Stockholm – 14 & 15 September 2006

The registrations for the General Meetings are coming in, but still too slowly!

For those who wish to participate to this meeting, please register as soon as possible.

The registration forms can be found on the CoESS website (www.coess.org).

3. Ongoing changes in Italy: Federsicurezza

Important changes in Italy's membership within CoESS: FEDERSICUREZZA has taken over the CoESS membership from ASSVIGILANZA. Federsicurezza, or the National Federation of Surveillance and Private Security, is the result of a merger between ASSVIGILANZA (traditional guarding and telemonitoring), UNIV (traditional guarding and telemonitoring), ASSOVALORI (cash-in-transit), ANSAT (satellite security and guarding) and a newly established organization representing only non-armed guarding. FEDERSICUREZZA represents some 200 companies and 20.000 guards and can therefore claim to speak on behalf of more than 50% of the Italian private security market. The establishment of FEDERSICUREZZA as a sector federation marks an important step for guaranteeing a better representation, a higher visibility and a more efficient representation of the interests of the private security sector in Italy. CoESS highly welcomes this development, which is totally in line with its vision of strong and unified national membership.

4. Best Value Project

CoESS, together with UNI-Europa, received an important funding from the European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities) to proceed with a project entailing the organisation of four national round tables « Selecting Best Value, presentation of the manual for public authorities awarding contracts for guarding services ». The round tables will take place in Budapest (19 October 2006 –Hungary), Prague (the Czech Republic), Warsaw (Poland) and Berlin (Germany). The project starts 1st August 2006 and will run for 12 months.

5. Update Training project

CoESS and UNI-Europa are currently also involved in a training project « Development of a European educational toolkit for three private security activities/profiles : 1) Mobile Patrolling, 2) Alarm Response Centres and 3) Airport Security ». As an initiative by both CoESS and UNI-Europa, the project must be considered as a concrete follow-up of the European Vocational Training Manual for Basic Guarding, developed in 2001. As this project benefits from an important funding from the European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities), the final document will be presented at the European Sectoral Dialogue Committee meeting for private security, scheduled on September 6, 2006. Afterwards, the document will be published on the CoESS website and accordingly distributed among the members.

6. Update CIT II project

The CIT II project has reached its final stage. This project, also a joint project for CoESS and UNI-Europa with funding from the European Commission (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities), is the follow-on and follow-up study of the former survey « A comparative overview of the legislations governing the Cash in Transit private industry in the 15 EU Member States of the EU », which was conducted in 2004 by the European Social Partners for the private security. The new report focuses on the regulation with respect to CIT in the 10 Member States that have joined the EU since May 1st 2004. The project is therefore titled : « A comparative overview of the legislations governing the Cash in Transit private industry in the 25 EU Member States ». The final document will be presented at the European Sectoral Dialogue Committee meeting for private security, scheduled on September 6, 2006. Afterwards it will be published on the CoESS website and accordingly distributed among the members.

For more information concerning these topics, please contact the Secretariat-General by phone (+32 2 462 07 73) or e-mail (apeg-bvbo@i-b-s.be or ml@i-b-s.be).
For all general information on CoESS, please consult the CoESS website (www.coess.org).