

**Structured Dialogue meeting between Commission/EEAS services
and
the European Training Foundation (ETF)**

Tuesday, 12 October 2021, 10:00 -12:00 hrs

J-27 7/059 - WebEx

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Chair: Jordi Curell, Director Labour Mobility, DG EMPL

ETF colleagues present:

- Cesare Onestini, Director;
- Erja Kaikkonen, Head of Policy and Public Outreach Department
- Georgios Zisimos, Head of Policy Advice and EU Programming Unit. [Other ETF managers are also present online].

Inform that given agenda point 4. concerns the IAS audit of ETF in 2021 on the Complementarity and cooperation mechanisms between the ETF and the EC services, Filip VERHOEVEN (HoU) and Liviu PACALA of the IAS are joining the meeting.

Opening and welcome all DGs present:

Suggest a tour de table to present themselves.

Remind about the objective of the bi-annual Structured Dialogue meeting:

- The opportunity for exchange between ETF and the Commission/EEAS
- The opportunity for all of us to speak to ETF management, inform about our priorities and ask ETF to support our work; ETF is here to support us with their expertise;
- For ETF management it is the opportunity to understand how they can best work with us, what our expectations are, brief us about their priorities and projects, of which we should know.
- Another objective is to prepare the upcoming Governing Board meeting.

Move to the Agenda of the meeting recalling that all documents were distributed:

1. Progress on the implementation of the Annual Work Programme 2021

2021 is the first year of the implementation of the ETF Strategy 2027 approved by the Governing Board on 14 June 2019.

Cesare will provide a brief update on how the ETF's Work Programme 2021 is progressing and on how cooperation with the EC services has been developing in 2021.

Give the floor to Cesare.

Open the floor for reactions

2. ETF – EC/EEAS engagement

- The ETF provides support to the EU institutions (EC, EEAS, EU Delegations, ...) upon request, for the different phases of the EU external assistance project cycle (identification, operationalisation and implementation, monitoring and evaluation), and also provides input to external assistance related to EU policy dialogue and reporting processes on Human Capital Development.
- One of the ETF's key objectives remains to provide high quality expertise support to enhance the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of EU interventions and to contribute to their impact in the Partner Countries.
- A key conditionality for the success of this function is to consult and agree on different requests for support with the Commission services and Delegations well in advance, but to retain a degree of flexibility to be able to be responsive to new emerging needs and priorities in EU external relations.

Over the years, for the sake of transparency, the monitoring of these requests has become more systemic, with the Commission and the ETF collecting the requests for discussion about priorities in the Structural Dialogue meetings.

- Cesare will provide an overview of our recent engagement and requests also for 2022.
- We would like to know if you have any requests to add or any priorities to change.

Open the floor for reactions.

3. The draft Single Programming Document 2022-24 Annual Work Programme 2022

One of the ETF's key objectives remains to provide high quality expertise support to enhance the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of EU interventions and to contribute to their impact in the Partner Countries.

The ETF's Single Programming Document (SPD) 2022-24 and Work Programme 2022 ensure delivery of the ETF's strategic objectives and the strategy 2021-27.

The initial draft SPD 2022-24 was presented to the Commission on 31st of January 2021. After the Structured Dialogue in April, the ETF revised the draft SPD 2022-24, upon which the **Commission opinion** was adopted on 17 August. The ETF have shared now a further revised work programme taking into consideration the Commission opinion. Following today's discussion the draft SPD 2022-24 will be put for adoption by the Governing Board in November 2021.

Cesare will tell you more about the draft SPD 2022-24.

Pass the floor to Cesare

Open the floor for reactions.

4. IAS audit 2021 - Complementarity and cooperation mechanisms between the ETF and the EC services

In 2020 the ETF Governing Board adopted the 2021-2023 IAS Strategic Internal Audit Plan for the ETF. The audit for 2021 is focussed on the Complementarity and cooperation mechanisms between the ETF and the EC services. Given the audit's focus, DGs will be involved in the audit.

Pass the floor to Cesare and the IAS auditor(s) to present the planned timing and scope of the audit and the involvement of DGs.

Open the floor for reactions.

5. The next ETF Governing Board meeting, 23 June 2021, Turin/online: Presentation of the agenda

The November meeting of the ETF Governing Board mainly focusses on the adoption of the SPD, work programme and the Budget of the following year. This meeting will take place in Turin and online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[For your info: Joost will chair the meeting. For INTPA, Head of Unit BILLAUX Cécile, for NEAR, Head of Unit BOUSQUET Mathieu, for EAC, Director ANGELOVA-KRASTEVA Antoaneta will attend.]

AOB