JEUNE NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME AND PRESENTATION

Dear JEUNE Friends,

2006 is drawing to an end. This year has been particularly active for our organisation. JEUNE has enhanced its visibility and has established a number of contacts with Associations of Young Entrepreneurs in other Member States. Moreover, JEUNE has been represented in several meetings among them : NORMAPME's Board Meetings, 2nd pre-conference on Crafts and Small enterprises in Budapest, Young Entrepreneurs European Forum in Spain, etc.). An important fact is that in 2006 JEUNE has been invited to participate in the European University -Industry Network (EUI-Net), a project supported by the Socrates Erasmus Programme of the European Commission. JEUNE plays a relevant role in this project, which will continue under the title Enterprise-University Dialogue as of 2007. For all these initiatives, we want to thank the Administrative Council's members and especially, JEUNE's president, Elena Pellaschiar, for her hard

Elena with Mr. Conella and Mr. Carrara of Confartigianato in Budapest

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS

JEUNE Administrative Council met in Brussels on October 9th. At this meeting, Mr. Ludger Fischer and Ms. Cristina Murciano of UEAPME presented their respective working groups on Food Stuff and Structural Funds and Regional Policy. Elena Pellaschiar and Maria Cimaglia encouraged the members to take part in UEAPME Committees.

Mr. Antonio Loredan from DG Research of the European Commission was invited to join the meeting in order to present the SMEs' opportunities for participation in the 7th Framework Programme (FP7)*.

The Administrative Council welcomed Mr. Majid El Jarroudi representing the French association, Jeunes Entrepreneurs de France and Mr. Tudor Miros, Vice-President of the Young Entrepreneurs Association of Romania. The meeting was a very good occasion to get to know the French and Romanian associations and to present JEUNE's activities and members.

At the end of the meeting, Eduard Royo, representative of the Catalan Young Entrepreneurs Association (AIJEC) invited the participants to attend the AIJEC Annual Congress and the II Meeting of Young Entrepreneurs of the Mediterranean in Tarragona at the end of November. The JEUNE Administrative Council will take place in the framework of the AIJEC

Jörn Bechthold, Vice-President of JEUNE at the October's Adminsitrative Council

THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

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http://www.euro-ombudsman.eu.int

At the UEAPME Legal Affairs Committee, which took place last October, Ms. Gundi Gandesmann of the European Ombudsman office in Brussels, explained the role of the European Ombudsman and the possibility to address complaints about maladministration in the institutions and bodies of the European Union.

Ms. Gandesmann explained that any citizen of the EU or any person residing in an EU Member State as well as companies and associations can refer their complaints to the European Ombudsman.

Which kind of complaints?

The Ombudsman can investigate complaints related to administrative delay, lack of transparency or refusal of access to information always from an EU institution.

The Ombudsman also deals with complaints from private firms on the contractual regulations between them and the EU institutions.

It is easier to raise a complaint to the Ombudsman because there is no need for a lawyer, there are no costs involved and the procedures are rather fast.

Which is the outcome of the complaint?

The Ombudsman informs the institution concerned in order for it to resolve the problem. In many of the cases, the institution resolves the problem straight after.

The Ombudsman tries to find a solution, if it does not work, it makes recommendations to the institution concerned. The decisions of the Ombudsman are not binding.

As a last resort, the Ombudsman can make a special report to the European Parliament.

Complaints can be made by mail, fax or e-mail. A complaint form can be downloaded from the Ombudsman's website: see address in the box.

JEUNE PARTICIPATES AT THE WORLD STANDARDS DAY 2006

The European Commission organised on 16th October a conference on European Standardisation. The message of the conference was to present the advantages standardisation represents for SMEs.

Among the speakers, there were Mr. Antonello Pezzini, Councellor of the Economic and Social Committee of the EU (ECOSOC), Mr. Hans Werner Müller, Secretary General of UEAPME and Mr. Loucas Gourtsoyannis, Director of the European Office of Crafts, Trades and SMEs for Standardisation (NORMAPME).

The SME representatives agreed on the fact that standardisation generates substantial costs for SMEs and that standards are formulated in a difficult language. SMEs need resources, personnel and time to implement the standards and this is not always possible.

Mr. Gourtsoyannis pointed out the importance and need to train SME experts in Standardisation. He added that SMEs need a much more simplified wording and implementation manuals.

The Commission representatives expressed the Commission's commitment in assisting SMEs in implementing the standards. In this line, several actions were mentioned such as the involvement of SME experts into technical committees, more funding on studies of good practices for National Standardisation Organisations.

For more information on this conference, you can see the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/standards_policy/international/world_standards_day/2006_en.htm

JEUNE and NORMAPME: years of cooperation

NORMAPME was created in 1996 and JEUNE is one of its funding members.

JEUNE actively contributes to NORMAPME's work by providing experts to the NORMAPME's Mirror Technical Committee, which help to build the SME position in the ISO and ESO (European Standard Organisations) Technical Committes via the participation of the NORMAPME's Expert.

On the other hand, Elena Pellaschiar represents JEUNE at the NORMAPME Board of Administration.

For more information on NORMAPME and its activities, you can view the following website: www.normapme.com

THE SERVICE DIRECTIVE

Nearly after three years, the European Parliament's plenary session accepted the Council's Common Position on the Service Directive on November 15th. The aim of this piece of legislation is to achieve a real internal market in services by removing legal and administrative barriers to the establishment of service enterprises as well as to the provision of services in other Member States.

Services included: The directive covers services to enterprises and to consumers, except for those explicitly excluded or those that are covered by specific EU regulations.

Services excluded: The directive does not affect:

- Labour law,

- Audiovisual or cinematographic services,

- Social services and those delivered by charity associations,

- Services of notaries or judicial agents, appointed by an official act of the Administration,

- Services of interim employment agencies,

- Health services

- Gambling activities

- Private security services

- Tax services

Country of origin versus country of destination: The controversial "country of origin » principle meant that providers of services would be subject to the laws of their country of origin rather than of the country where the services are provided. The providers could thus test a new market without having to register with the authorities. This principle was widely refused and replaced by the country of destination principle.

This principle means that the country of destination will be responsible for carrying out controls on service providers. This will ensure that businesses comply with the high standards for service provision in most EU states.

Benefits: More than 50% of the economic activity is in services in most of the EU but just only 20% of the services are cross-border. The importance of the directive lies in its potential benefits for the economy. Once it is transposed at national level, intra EU-exports and competition in service markets will increase bringing down prices. As a result, quality of the services and consumer protection will also improve. There are important prospects of long-run growth and welfare.

Forthcoming: The Council needs to adopt the Service Directive after the EP's approval. The publication of the Directive in the Official Journal is foreseen for early 2007.Member States will have three years to transpose the directive.

The "Freedom to provide services" established in the Treaty of Rome will no longer be limited since the new Service Directive removes barriers to cross-border services.

BENEFITIAL PROVISIONS FOR SMEs

Free movement of establishment

The directive aims at making the establishment in other Member States as easy as possible. If a country puts in place an autorisation regime, it must be justified and it must not discriminate the service providers from other Member States.

Simplification of procedures:

The Member States will have to reduce their administrative procedures when these are not simple enough. The service providers will have to address one contact point instead of having to visit different Administrations in different Member States.

Freedom to provide services

The directive accepts this freedom but allows the country or region where the service is provided to introduce additional requirements, when they do not alter public security, public health and the protection of the environment. Any restriction will need to be non-discriminatory, proportional and necessary.

Administrative Cooperation

The Member States will reciprocally assist themselves in order to guarantee the control of the service providers and the services.

The Country of establishment of the service provider will provide the necessary information to the country where the service is

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MEMBER'S SECTION:

Företagarna is the largest organization for business owners in Sweden and represents some 55,000 directly affiliated entrepreneurs and 21 industry associations. Företagarna works for a better business climate in Sweden.

Företagarna Västra Götaland is member of JEUNE since 2004. Geographically, Västra Götaland is one of the largest regions in Sweden and Göteborg is the largest city and the centre of growth in the region.

Företagarna Västra Götaland has 9000 members and nearly 2000 members are young entrepreneurs up to 40 years old. The young group of Företagarna Västra Götaland is called Young Entrepreneurs in Företagarna.

The business represented are mostly: agriculture, services, production, marketing and IT. Among the members companies, there are nearly no family -companies », which means that are runned by one person.

Företagarna Västra Götaland works for a better business climate in the region and in the whole Sweden. It provides a wide range of services to its members: networking, legal assistance, liaison with the local authorities, etc.

Mrs. Lotten Svensson and Mrs. Marie Johansson are members are young entrepreneurs' board of Företagarna Västra Götaland. Mrs. Svensson is member of the Administrative Council of JEUNE since 2004.

The General Assembly of Young Entrepreneurs in Företagarna takes place 6 times per year in Skaraborg. The Board also gathers around 6 times per year.

Young Entrepreneurs in Företagarna,
Address:

Varnhemsgatan 13, 542 00 Skövde,

To view its website, click the following link: http://www.vgl.foretagarna.se/

Lotten Svensoon at one of the JEUNE's Administrative Councils.

Lotten Svensson is representing JEUNE in a meeting in Stockholm in 2005

JEUNE's ACTIVITIES

October

16th October: World Standards Day organised by DG Enterprise, Brussels. Attended by Rosa Solanes

26th October: Reception for the 10th Anniversary of NORMAPME. Première of the NORMAPME Film and Cocktail, Brussels.

27th October: Meeting with Ms. Tunde Komoroczki, Director of International Affairs at the Federation of Young Entrepreneurs (FYE) of Hungary.

31st October: Meeting with EUI-Net Partners, Brussels. Attended by Elena Pellaschiar and Rosa Solanes.

November

10th, 11th November: Confartigianato Giovani, Florence (Italy).

14th November: Meeting with Mr. Ivo Ivancic of VERN Businnes School of Zagreb, Brussels.

20, 21st November: 2nd pre-conference on crafts and small enterprises: « Challenges for the successful integration of crafts and small enterprises from the new Member States into the single market bu 2010 », Budapest (Hungary) (Attended by Elena Pellaschiar)

30th November: NORMAPME's Board Meeting and General Assembly, Brussels. (Attended by Elena Pellaschiar).

30th November: AIJEC Annual Congress and II Euromediterranean Meeting in Tarragona of Young Entrepreneurs (Spain).

For more information on this event, you can view the following link:

http://www.aijec.es/documento.asp?id=164

December

1st December: UEAPME's General Assembly (Attended by Maria Cimaglia

1th, 2nd December: AIJEC of Young Entrepreneurs and II Euromediterranean Meeting in Tarragona (Spain).

8th, 9th December: Företagarna Young Group will hold a meeting to plan next year's activities in Skaraborg (Sweden).

11th December: Meeting in Vienna of the EUI-Net Project. Attended by Elena Pellaschiar and Rosa Solanes.

11th, 12th December: Företagarna Youn Group's Administrative Council in Västra Götaland (Sweden).

13th December: UEAPME Working Group on Relations with Banks, Brussels (Attended by Majid el Jarroundi and Rosa Solanes)