

EHFA-Employers Annual General Meeting
2nd Floor Exhibition Centre, Congress Centrum North Messeplatz 1, 50679, Köln
April 4th 2017 at 17.00h (CET)

Participating organisations:

ukactive (UK)
Fundacian (ES)
SNELM (FR)
Ireland Active (IE)
AGAP (PT)
DFHO (DK)
ANIF (IT)
SKY (FI)
Lithuanian Health and Fitness Association (LT)

Apologies for absence:

Czech Chamber of Fitness (CZ)
Virke (NO) (Observer)

The meeting was chaired by Conn McCluskey, CEO of Ireland Active.

1. Agenda

The draft agenda was approved for the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2. Approval of minutes of the General Assembly 05_04_2016

The minutes were approved.

3. Update on social dialogue activities

The test phase (ESSDC) continued by EASE & UNI-Europa with EuropeActive and EC-OE as observers. A new social dialogue project involving fitness and outdoor sectors held roundtables between employers and employees in Romania, Finland and Poland and was finalized at a plenary session in Berlin with representatives from sport.

A project under Erasmus+ Key Action 2 was approved by DG EMPL in 2016 and as part of its objectives a new Sector Skills Alliance for Active Leisure (SSA) was formed in November. The formation of the SSA was also by a mandate given at the EHFA-E General Assembly of April 2016.

Social dialogue and the engagement of both employers and employees is considered an important principle of how the SSA will develop. The problem remains that the European Association of Sport Employers (EASE) considers itself to be the "representative" body for social dialogue at the European level. EuropeActive and the European Confederation of Outdoor Employers (EC-OE) have made a proposal for future cooperation, but this has been rejected by EASE.

EuropeActive and EC-OE will now directly approach the European Commission to ask for their formal recognition as representative employer organisations as identified in the Eurofound Study of 2013.

4. Resolution for continued action in social dialogue and to form a sector skills alliance

The members agree that EHFA-E, in cooperation with EuropeActive, and through the recognition given to it in the Eurofound Study (2013), should continue to promote its representative position for employers in the fitness sector at the European level.

This will involve cooperating with other stakeholders and representative organisations and European Union Institutions, as considered appropriate, to promote and protect the fitness sector in the area of social dialogue and for the development of the sector skills alliance for active leisure (with the outdoor sector) that was launched in November 2016.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

5. Any other business

The Members expressed their support to the expansion of EHFA-E membership.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2018.

The meeting closed at 17,30h.