

European Construction Industry Federation

FIEC FLASH

N°64, >JANUARY 2009

SUMMARY

I. Steering Committee, Council and General Assembly	2
1. STEERING COMMITTEE	2
2. COUNCIL	2
3. CONGRESSES	2
4. MEETINGS WITH EU POLICY MAKERS	2
II. Current issues	3
A. ECO	3
1. EUROSTAT: CONSTRUCTION OUTPUT UP BY 0.7% IN THE EU27 BETWEEN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2008	3
2. LATEST NEWS ON PUBLIC PROCUREMENT:	3
3. NEWS IN BRIEF:	4
B. SOC	5
1. COMMISSION SAYS THERE IS NO NEGATIVE IMPACT FROM FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS RESULTING FROM EU ENLARGEMENT	5
2. EU EMPLOYMENT MINISTERS SAY CURRENT CRISIS MUST NOT AFFECT SOCIAL PROTECTION	5
3. THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MASSIVELY REJECTS COUNCIL COMMON POSITION ON WORKING TIME	6
4. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REACHES COMPROMISE ON “SANCTIONS” DIRECTIVE	6
C. TEC	7
1. TEC-2 DISCUSSES ACCESS TO EU RESEARCH FUNDING FOR SMES	7
2. TEC-1 ADOPTS FIEC’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CPR VOTE IN IMCO	7
3. STANDARDISATION ROUND-UP	8
D. TENS	9
1. THE COMMISSION SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FREIGHT RAIL NETWORK.	9
2. SHORT NEWS:	9
E. MEDA	10
1. MEDA NEWSLETTER	10
F. SPEECHES/ PRESENTATIONS ON BEHALF OF FIEC	10
G. MEMBERS CORNER	11
HAUPTVERBAND DER DEUTSCHEN BAUINDUSTRIE : NEW PRESIDENT	11
DIPL.-ING. HERBERT BODNER	11
1. CURRENT DEADLINES FOR RESPONSE	11
2. FORTHCOMING INTERNAL MEETINGS	12
3. EIC / CICA / MEMBER FEDERATIONS	12
4. EXTERNAL MEETINGS	13
Forum Construction	13

I. Steering Committee, Council and General Assembly

1. Steering Committee

In its meeting held in Brussels on 6th February 2009, the Steering Committee addressed the following issues in addition to material issues dealt with by ECO, SOC, TEC, TEN-T, SME, MEDA, Ethics, ECF, EIC and CICA:

- decision to propose a 20% "capping" on a country's subscription to Council/ General Assembly
- discussions with NORMAPME on better collaboration will commence between the Directors
- draft schedule and conference programme of Madrid correspond to the expectations
- decision to encourage Member Federations to publish FIEC information in their own publications

2. Council

On the basis of the latest information concerning the UK-membership's situation, the Steering Committee decided NOT to hold a COUNCIL meeting in Prague on 24th April 2009.

3. Congresses

Congress 2009: Madrid, Spain, Thursday 18 – Saturday 20/6/2009

Congress 2010: Cyprus, 27 – 29/5/2010

Congress 2011 initial discussions under way

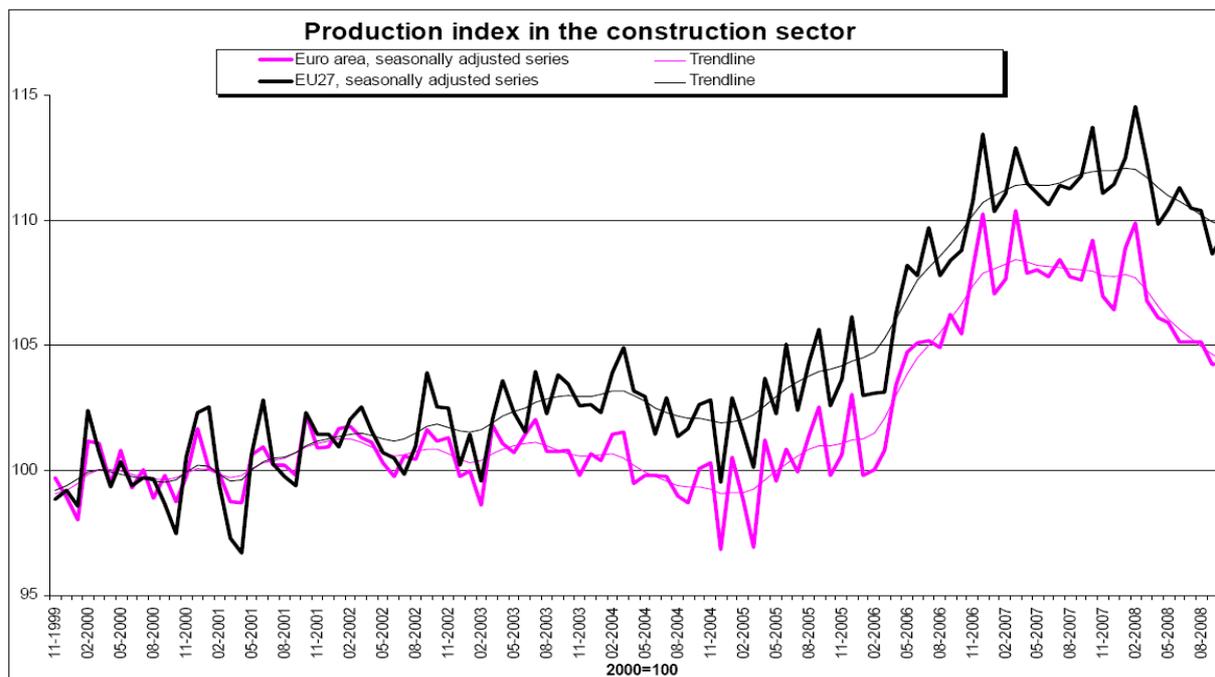
4. Meetings with EU policy makers

No such meeting in the reporting period.

*(For further information on FIEC speakers on this occasion, please refer to **item II. G.**)*

II. Current issues**A. ECO****1. Eurostat: construction output up by 0.7% in the EU27 between September and October 2008**

According to estimates released by Eurostat, in the construction sector, seasonally adjusted production increased by 0.1% in the euro area (EA15) and by 0.7% in the EU27 in October 2008 compared with the previous month. In September, production fell by 0.9% and 1.6% respectively. Compared with October 2007, output in October 2008 dropped by 4.0% in the euro area and by 3.5% in the EU27.

**Monthly comparison**

Among the Member States for which data are available for October 2008, construction output rose in eight, fell in four and remained stable in France. The most significant increases were registered in the United Kingdom (+8.2%), Spain (+3.8%), Bulgaria (+1.8%) and Poland (+1.7%). The largest decreases were recorded in Slovakia (-4.7%), Germany (-3.0%) and the Czech Republic (-1.1%).

Building construction was stable in the euro area and increased by 0.7% in the EU27, after -1.2% and -2.1% respectively in September. Civil engineering fell by 0.2% in the euro area, but increased by 0.9% in the EU27, after -0.8% and +0.2% respectively in the previous month.

Annual comparison

Among the Member States for which data are available for October 2008, construction output rose in seven and fell in six. The highest increases were recorded in Romania (+20.6%), Slovenia and Slovakia (both +15.7%) and Bulgaria (+15.0%). The largest decreases were registered in Spain (-13.7%), the United Kingdom (-6.1%) and Germany (-3.8%).

Building construction decreased by 4.1% in the euro area and by 3.8% in the EU27, after -4.0% and -4.2% respectively in September. Civil engineering fell by 4.1% in the euro area and by 1.9% in the EU27, after -2.8% and +1.6% respectively in the previous month.

2. Latest news on public procurement:

- Last December, the European Commission updated the national lists of Contracting Authorities and Utilities (national and local administration, public services and services to the public, universities, hospitals, railway operators, etc.) that have to follow EU public procurement rules. The revision takes account of the European Union enlargement to Bulgaria and Romania. The purpose of these lists is to

improve transparency and accountability in public procurement, as well as offering more opportunity for business to participate in public contracts.

Although the definitions in the public procurement Directives themselves (2004/18/EC and 2004/17/EC) provide the exact scope, the national lists give a very good indication of all public bodies covered by these rules.

In 2006, nearly 32000 contracting authorities launched calls for tenders for markets representing around €380 billion.

- In its conclusions of 12th December 2008, the European Council invited the Commission to adopt a number of measures in response to the financial crisis. One of those was to accelerate procurement procedures.

Following this invitation and taking into account that the public procurement Directive 2004/18/EC allows recourse to accelerated procedures where justified on the grounds of urgency, the Commission recognized that the exceptional nature of the current economic situation can justify the use of the accelerated procedure reducing considerably the overall time limit of the procedure from 87 to 30 days. Such presumption of urgency should apply throughout 2009 and 2010 for all major public projects. The Commission considers that speeding up procurement procedures can significantly support Member States action to support their economies through rapid execution of major public investment projects.

3. News in brief:

- **Urban mobility.** As the European Commission has not been able to present, as foreseen, its Action Plan on Urban Mobility before the end of 2008, the Transport Committee of the European Parliament exceptionally decided to charge Gilles Savary (PSE - FR) to draft an initiative report – in the absence of a Commission's proposal – in order to present the views of the Parliament before the end of its mandate.

- **Reduced VAT.** The ECOFIN of 1st and 2nd December did not manage to reach an agreement on reduced VAT rates as the positions held by delegations have not changed since November. Around 20 Member States support reduced VAT rates when it does not have an impact on the financial market; several countries – headed by Germany – are hostile to a reduction.

As proposed by the European Commission in the Economic Recovery Plan, the European Council finally supported in its conclusions of 11th and 12th December, the possibility, for those Member States that so wish, to apply reduced VAT rates to certain sectors: the European Council has requested that the ECOFIN Council settle the issue before the European Council of March 2009.

Comment: in parallel and as requested in the Economic Recovery Plan, the European Commission is working on a proposal for a reduced VAT to be applied on "green" products and services.

- **Eurovignette.** The Transport Council of 8th and 9th December did not manage to reach an agreement on the Eurovignette proposal and the current financial crisis has made an agreement within the Council even more difficult. Many questions remain on the draft revised Directive which authorizes Member States to include in tolls paid by heavy goods vehicles an amount corresponding to the cost of local air and noise pollution, as well as congestion. The Council only adopted a report on the state of work progress. As regards the European Parliament, rapporteur Saïd El Khadraoui (PSE – BE) still hopes an agreement can be reached within the Transport Committee in January and a vote in plenary session in March.

For further information on the ECO Commission please contact Christine Le Forestier at the FIEC Secretariat (info@fiec.eu; Tel: +32 2 514 55 35).

B. SOC

1. Commission says there is no negative impact from free movement of workers resulting from EU enlargement

The European Commission published in November 2008 a Communication presenting the impact of free movement of workers after the last enlargement of the European Union. In this Communication the Commission takes stock of the first phase of the transitional agreement with Bulgaria and Romania and the second phase with the member states of the EU8 (the 10 new EU members; less Cyprus and Malta). All the impact studies carried out by the Commission have shown that the arrival of workers from the new member states has had no adverse effect on the host countries and in particular that it has not led to lower wages or an increase in unemployment. On the contrary, it has helped tackle labour shortages and contributed to economic growth.

The key messages of this Communication are:

1. free movement of workers has not led to serious disturbance of labour markets after enlargement; on this basis the Commission encourages member states to lift restrictions on the free movement of workers as quickly as possible;
2. the free movement of workers has contributed to economic growth by tackling labour market and skills shortages in some member states;
3. despite some temporary adjustment problems, free movement has not, on the whole, displaced local workers or driven wages down;
4. there is still much more migration from non-EU states and between old member states than from new to old member states;
5. in the context of the economic slowdown, mobile workers will go where there is work and usually leave again when conditions are less favourable.

According to the report, only 10 EU member states have fully opened their market. The other 15 still apply restrictions to the free movement of Bulgarian and Romanian workers. Of these states, 7 have simplified their rules, by speeding up or simplifying procedures (Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg) or allowing workers to join the labour market after tests for the granting of a work permit (Austria, France, Hungary, Germany) or removing the requirement for a work permit for certain jobs in certain sectors or under certain conditions (Denmark, Hungary, Italy).

11 of the old member states have removed all restrictions for workers from the 8 eastern European countries which joined the EU in 2004. Belgium, Germany, Austria and Denmark have eased their control and quota procedures.

The Commission report also gives more detailed information on the legal basis for transitional arrangements, takes stock of how they are being applied currently in member states, provides statistical information on the flow of workers between member states since the two recent enlargements (in 2004 and 2007), and gives an analysis of the effect of free movement of workers in economic, labour market and social terms.

In the light of this report, the Council of Ministers will consider the second phase of transitional arrangements for Bulgaria and Romania, which took effect from 1st January 2009, and will revise the transitional arrangements applied after the 2004 enlargement.

2. EU employment Ministers say current crisis must not affect social protection

During a debate on the social impact of the crisis that took place in December 2008 amongst the employment and social affairs Ministers of the 27 Member States, the ministers were unanimous in pointing out that to prevent the financial crisis being transformed into a deep economic crisis, measures to promote job security did not mean ignoring social protection and protecting the most vulnerable. In this context, several delegations underlined the advantages of the “flexicurity” approach.

Ministers also appealed for measures to foster social cohesion. Most delegations supported the strengthening of the open method of coordination for protection and social inclusion. Several delegations considered that short and long term measures should be combined and underlined the

importance for member states to continue reforms of their social systems. The majority of delegations also gave their support to the idea of facilitating European Social Fund (ESF) and European Globalisation Adjustment fund payments. Some delegations wanted to set up a monitoring system to follow labour market developments in the EU. Many member states also provided an insight into the measures taken at a national level to combat the crisis.

3. The European Parliament massively rejects Council common position on working time

On 17th December in Strasbourg, the European Parliament, by absolute majority, adopted the common position on the working time directive as amended by the EP employment and social affairs committee, thereby confirming the deep differences of view with the Council on this issue, particularly with regard to the opt-out clause and on-call time. This vote brings the prospect of what is certainly going to be a very difficult conciliation procedure.

The main contentious issues that the Parliament and Council must now try to resolve are:

1. The Opt-out clause: the Council “common position” of 15/9/2008 stated that the working week in the EU must be limited to 48 hours maximum, unless a member state introduces an opt-out clause and workers decide to use that clause. For workers who opt for the derogation, the text lays down a maximum of 60 hours of work per week on average over a 3-month period. This can be increased to 65 hours a week on average over three months where there is no collective bargaining agreement and where the inactive period of on-call time is regarded as working time. The EP however re-affirmed its position expressed during the 1st reading, which called for the opt-out clause to be scrapped within 3 years of the revised directive coming into force. Most MEPs felt that extending the reference period for calculating weekly working hours to 12 months would allow work to be organised flexibly. The Council common position also took the reference period to 1 year, but only after consultation with the social partners. Furthermore, the maximum reference period would be six months in member states which decide not to make use of the opt-out clause.
2. On-call time : the Council and the Commission introduced the ideas of “active” on-call time, that is, a period during which a worker must be available at the workplace in order to be able to work when required by an employer, and “inactive” on-call time, when the worker is on call but is not required by his/her employer to work. In the common position, the Council said that inactive on-call time should not count as working time unless otherwise decided by national law or by agreement between employers' and employees' representatives in accordance with national law. The EP, on the other hand, said that inactive on-call time should be considered to be working time. However, it considers that inactive on-call time may be calculated in a specific way for the purposes of complying with maximum weekly average working time.
3. Time off in lieu : the general principle is that workers should be given time off in lieu when normal rest periods cannot be taken. The Council's common position stated that “it shall be up to member states to determine the length of a 'reasonable period'” within which time off in lieu is to be granted. The EP says that time off in lieu must be given “following periods of time spent on duty”, in accordance with the relevant law or an agreement between the two sides of industry.

4. Council of Ministers reaches compromise on “Sanctions” directive

On 23/12/2008 the EU permanent representatives reached qualified majority on the draft “Sanctions” directive, which provides for harmonisation of certain obligations imposed on employers and sanctions taken against them to combat illegal work by third country nationals.

If the European Parliament adopts the text (“Fava Report”) in the exact form of the compromise negotiated in the Council, the proposal will then be adopted at first reading.

The vote of the EP in the plenary session will take place at the beginning of February.

The text of the compromise indicates that employers will first of all have to verify that a potential employee is in a legally resident in the country, with a valid residence permit or equivalent authorisation, and secondly that the relevant national authorities are informed. Failing this, they will be liable to fines including the cost of return of third country nationals found to be working illegally, as well as the payment of any outstanding remunerations, taxes or social security contributions.

Other sanctions may also be imposed upon them, for example, exclusion from entitlement to public subsidies and a ban on taking part in public contracts for a period of up to five years, as well as the temporary or definitive closure of any establishments that have been used for committing the offence, or the temporary or definitive withdrawal of the license allowing the activity in question.

Given that administrative fines or penalties do not always prove sufficiently dissuasive for some employers, member states should use penal sanctions for the most serious intentional offences such as repeated infringement, simultaneous use of a significant number of illegal workers, employment of minors, particularly exploitative working conditions, or the fact that the employer knows the worker is a victim of people trafficking.

In cases where subcontractors are used, the contractor and all companies in the subcontracting chain may, either on their own or together, be liable to financial penalties if a subcontractor at the end of the chain employs illegal third country nationals.

In order to ensure application of the directive, Member States shall be under an obligation to make a minimum number of inspections of companies established on their territory depending on a sectoral risk analysis prepared by the national authorities. Member States shall ensure that there are effective mechanisms through which third country nationals in illegal employment can lodge complaints against their employers, directly or through third parties designated by Member States such as trade unions or other associations.

For further information on the SOC Commission please contact Domenico Campogrande at the FIEC Secretariat (info@fiiec.eu; Tel:+32 2 514 55 35).

C. TEC

1. TEC-2 discusses access to EU research funding for SMEs

In what was the first meeting of the TEC-2 “Innovation and Processes” sub-commission since the creation of FIEC’s Brussels office in 1989, members of the sub-commission gathered at the FIEC offices on 23rd January 2009 to discuss how FIEC can contribute to improving participation of SMEs in EU funded research projects.

The meeting heard how, despite a readiness to participate in EU projects, many SMEs are held back from doing so by a lack of knowledge of where to find information and a general confusion as to how to negotiate the arduous and time-consuming process of finding project partners. It was also mentioned that in many cases, a lack of information on calls for proposals in a local language can deter companies from responding.

In order to prepare FIEC’s response to tackling these barriers, the meeting decided to invite Member Federations to put forward the names of a number of their SMEs who have been involved or have wished to become involved in EU research funding to identify what specific barriers they have faced. In doing FIEC will seek to co-operate with the PRESTO project. PRESTO, co-financed under the scope of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Commission, supports Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Associations (SMEAs) to define their research priorities through a series of analyses, activities and support measures.

In another move, to emphasise the importance of research and development to the industry, the meeting resolved to put to the plenary meeting of FIEC’s Technical Commission, a resolution adding “research” to the name of the TEC-2 sub-commission. The plenary meeting is scheduled for 15/5/2009.

2. TEC-1 adopts FIEC’s recommendations for CPR vote in IMCO

The process of drawing up amendments to the Commission’s proposed Construction Products Regulation has been a mammoth task for the European Parliament. Members of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) have tabled over 300 amendments. These will be voted on in committee on 10th February 2009 before proceeding to a vote in plenary scheduled for April, shortly before Parliament is dissolved for elections in the spring.

The TEC-1 meeting which took place on 9th January 2009 adopted FIEC's response to the huge number of amendments that are to be voted on. One of the key issues and one which has been the object of numerous amendments is that of the supply of information linked to CE marking. In the face of a large number of amendments put down by representatives of manufacturers, FIEC wished to bring home the need for the manufacturer to continue to be obliged to actively supply information linked to the CE marking. In this regard, simply making information available on a web site would not be sufficient. To add extra potency to its message in advance of the vote, FIEC has also sent a memo on the subject to selected MEPs.

The TEC-1 meeting also saw a resolution to move towards a general FIEC position on the participation of contractors in the standardisation process. The meeting recalled how, in many instances, contractors are still under-represented in CEN's Technical Committees. A more detailed position as well as a more detailed strategy for increasing the effectiveness of FIEC's participation in the work of existing CEN/TCs will be developed in time for the plenary meeting of the Technical Commission.

3. Standardisation Round-Up

FIEC succeeds in preventing reference to execution in new TC business plan on roof gardens:

Speaking at CEN's 37th TCMG meeting held in Brussels on 11th December 2008, FIEC made clear its opposition to execution provisions being included in the business plan of a new TC on roof gardens. Following FIEC's pressure and the support of other standards bodies, the resolution approved in the meeting excludes the term "execution" from the title of the new TC. FIEC members had raised concern that standardizing the execution of roof gardens would lead to uncertainty for some contractors as regards insurance and liability in instances where roof gardens are considered as a waterproof layer. It was also felt that execution practices for roof gardens are too varied through Europe's different climatic zones to be the object of standardisation.

FFB organize seminar on standardisation.

FIEC attended a symposium organised by the French Builders Federation (FFB) in Paris on 15th January 2009 on the theme of standardisation. In a series of interventions, participants heard how contractors, especially craftsmen, are often prevented from participating in the process of standards writing through a lack of resources and a lack of time. Product standards drafting is still dominated by manufacturers who increasingly see standards as a way of marketing their product and increasing their share of the market. As far as execution standards are concerned, one of the major problems faced by contractors is that of explaining execution standards to the worker on the construction site and in this respect, an attempt to remedy this problem could involve the use of simpler language and terminology in drawing up the standard. In one of the concluding remarks participants were reminded that the use and adherence to execution standards is not something that can be ignored by contractors faced with the growing client demand for certification based on third party testing.

D. TEN**1. The Commission supports the development of a freight rail network.**

On 11th December 2008, the European Commission adopted a Regulation on setting up a European Rail network within the general framework of the Trans-European Transport Network, which will be principally dedicated to freight and thus realizes one of the initiatives of the logistics package adopted by the Commission in October 2007.

These international corridors, freely identified by each Member State, will be organized so as to improve rail freight traffic by giving priority to freight trains through a better coordination of rail traffic, a better allocation of routes and an easy access to loading and unloading terminals.

Plans for corridors will be validated at Community level. Every corridor will have its own governance structure which will bring together the infrastructure managers and terminal managers of the states concerned. They will together be responsible for drawing up and monitoring measures on the way the corridor operates and the creation of the corridor. Transnational corridors - all with similar technical standards and quality - set up according to criteria determined by the Commission should then be able to be interconnected.

Comment: The Commission's proposal targets the optimization of specific/strategic existing TEN-T rail axes for the transport of freight, rather than the construction of a new rail network dedicated to freight. Investments in infrastructure are only part of the proposal.

2. Short news:

- Vice-President Antonio Tajani responsible for Transport signed on 5th December 2008 11 financing decisions under the TEN-T multi-annual programme 2007-2013. The decisions concern important railway works in Italy, Austria, France, Germany, Slovenia and Hungary. However, the allocated €1.7 billion do not represent new funds but form part of the global budget allocated to the 30 TEN-T Priority Projects for the period 2007-2013. These funds will furthermore be distributed depending on the projects' progress, in the framework of calls for proposals

- The Spanish stretch of the High Speed Railway South Europe-Atlantique, which is part of the 30 TEN-T Priority Projects, has been targeted by the ETA (armed Basque nationalist and separatist organization). The owner of the company Altuna y Uria, which is involved in the project, was murdered at the beginning of December 2008. Some other company owners working in this project received death threats in the course of December.

- The European Investment Bank (EIB) and Portugal signed a framework agreement last November on coordinating financing for key infrastructure projects up to 2018. The EIB agreed to lend €14 billion, which will namely help fund the Lisbon-Madrid and Porto-Lisbon, high speed railways which are part of the TEN-T Priority Projects.

- Despite Mr. Berlusconi's strong support for this project, the Italian stretch of the Lyon-Turin high speed railway has made little progress. Mr. Mario Virano, responsible for the Italian side of the project, very recently announced his resignation due to the absence of agreement from the regional representatives of the inhabitants of the Susa Valley on the HSR's proposed new route.

Comment: The total cost of the international section is estimated at €10 billion: 5 to 10% should be financed by future tolling systems, 27% by the EU, 63% by Italy (cf. extra costs due to the route changing) and 37% by France.

- Last November, the EIB allocated a loan of €313 million over 35 years for the construction of a tunnel under the Scheldt River to link container terminals in the Port of Antwerp to the TEN-T and in particular Europe's railway network. The project takes the form of a PPP (Belgium largest ever PPP) the total cost of which is estimated at €841 million.

For further information on the TENs Ad-Hoc Working Group, please contact Christine Le Forestier or Domenico Campogrande at the FIEC Secretariat (info@fiec.eu; Tel: +32 2 514 55 35).

E. MEDA

1. MEDA newsletter

The latest MEDA newsletter is available on the FIEC website.

For further information on MEDA please contact Ulrich Paetzold at the FIEC Secretariat (info@fiec.eu; Tel:+32 2 514 55 35).

F. Speeches/ Presentations on behalf of FIEC

Brussels, 6 February 2009: The European Economic and Social Committee's Consultative Commission on Industrial Change, CCMI, has held a hearing on "The global financial crisis and industrial change in the main European manufacturing and services sectors". For FIEC, Vincent Detemmerman of the Belgian Confederation presented the situation in the European construction industry (Powerpoint on the FIEC website).

Coventry (UK), 16 February 2009: The European Union Sustainable Energy Week on the Recast of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive– Frank Faraday, Director of Technical and Environmental Affairs,

Geneva, 17-18 February 2009: 300th Session of Global dialogue forum on decent work in local government procurement for infrastructure provision – Domenico Campogrande, Director of Social Affairs and Maria Angeles Asenjo from the Spanish Confederation..

Barcelona, 12-13 March 2009: EIB FORUM - Connecting Europe: Financing mobility and sustainable cities - Luisa Todini, Vice-President, and Enrique Fuentes, EIC Board Member.

Oslo, 18-20 May 2009: The Peppol-conference under the heading, use of public procurement as means for other purposes than delivering value for money / possibilities and dilemmas - Ulrich Paetzold, FIEC Director General.

Please also refer to *speeches available on the FIEC website under "Conference/speeches"*:
<http://www.fiec.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=25&LanguageCode=EN>.

G. Members Corner**Hauptverband der Deutschen Bauindustrie : New President
Dipl.-Ing. Herbert Bodner**

As from 1/1/2009, Mr. Herbert Bodner is the new President of our German member federation HDB (Hauptverband der Deutschen Bauindustrie). Mr. Bodner is also Vice-President of the German Industry Federation (BDI).

Born: 1946 (in Graz, AT)

Education:

- Building Engineer (Stuttgart University)

Experience:

- Ed. Züblin AG, Stuttgart, 1971
- Bilfinger Berger, 1991-1996
Different management positions in holding companies abroad
- Member of the Executive Board of Bilfinger Berger as from 1997
- Chairman of the Executive Board at Bilfinger Berger as from 1999
- Active involvement of Mr. Bodner in HDB as Chairman of the working group “Private financing” for private-public-partnership in public building and transport works.

**1. Current deadlines for response**

MR EN°	TO	SUBJECT	DEADLINE
2009/057	ECO-PLEN, ECO-STAT	Statistical Report N°52 Action 6/03/2009	
2009/029	ECO-PLEN, ECO-STAT	FIEC “Economic Barometer”	16/02/2009
2009/052	ECO-PLEN, CD	Question on FIEC possible message on extra money for EU recovery Plan	18/02/2009
2009/054	ECO-PLEN, CD	FIEC Congress Conference question to the Member Federations on the “Credit Insurance” issue	27/02/2009
2009/041	ECO-PLEN, TWG “Internal Market – LMI”	Lead Market Initiative (LMI): “Elios” study on Liability and insurance in Construction sector - Questionnaire	15/04/2009
2009/012 & 018	ECO-PLEN ad-Hoc WG TEN-T	FIEC “BLUE BOOK” 16th Edition	20/3/2009

All FIEC consultations are available on the web site : www.fiec.eu / For our Members / Consultations

2. Forthcoming internal meetings

2009	BODY	PLACE	DETAILS
• 10 th - 11 th March	SOC-2 + “H&S” SOC. DIALOGUE	BRUSSELS	
• 20 th March	POSTING” DATABASE PROJECT - PHASE II 3RD STEERING GROUP MEETING	PARIS (FNTF OFFICES)	
• 16 th April	ECO-PLEN	BRUSSELS	
• 22 nd April	TEC-4	PARIS	
• 24 th April	STEERING COMMITTEE	PRAGUE	
• 14 th - 15 th May	SOC-3 + “EMPLOYMENT” SOC. DIAL.	BRUSSELS	
• 15 th May	TEC-PLEN	BRUSSELS	
• 18 th – 20 th June	FIEC CONGRESS 2009	MADRID SPAIN	DRAFT PROGRAMME : WWW.FIEC.EU
• 30 th June	SOC-PLEN + PLENARY SOC. DIAL.	BRUSSELS	
• 1 st – 2 nd October	SOC-1 + “VOC. TRAINING” SOCIAL DIALOGUE	BRUSSELS	
• 20 th October	ECO-PLEN	BRUSSELS	
• 20 th – 21 st October	SOC-2 + “H&S” SOC. DIALOGUE	BRUSSELS	
• 19 th – 20 th November	SOC-3 + “EMPLOYMENT” SOC. DIAL.	BRUSSELS	
• 15 th December	SOC-PLEN + PLENARY SOC. DIAL.	SOFIA (BG) ?	
2010			
• 27 th – 29 th May 2010	FIEC CONGRESS 2010	CYPRUS	

All meetings documents are available on the web site : www.fiec.eu / For our Members / Diary

3. EIC / CICA / Member Federations

Dates	Body	Place	Details
• 4/3/2009	CZ – SPS Construction Forum	PRAGUE	Conference “Sustainable Construction”
• 27-28/4/2009	EIC Board/ GA/ Conference	STOCKHOLM	
• 8-9/10/2009	EIC Board/ GA/ Conference	ANTWERP	

4. External Meetings**Forum Construction**26TH FEBRUARY 2009: Batibouw, (start 10h00)

Parc des Expositions de Bruxelles, Auditorium 2000, au Heysel

**REGISTRATION**
<http://www.confederationconstruction.be/forum/forumform.fr.asp>

2009			
• 9-13/2 • Brussels	Sustainable Energy Week	EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Mr E 2008/430 www.eusew.eu
• 17-18/2 • Geneva	Global Dialogue Forum on construction Main theme: "the ILO-Convention 094 on labour Clauses in Public Contracts".	ILO	Mr. E 2008/264
• 26/2 – 8/3 Brussels	Belgian Construction Fair	Batibouw	www.batibouw.com
• 26/3 • Budapest	Conference "the potential of PPPs in Europe – the 1st interactive know-how delivery conference"	EPPPC, the European PPP Center	Mr. E 2009 /042
• 27/2 • Wels (Austria)	Conference: "Energy Efficient Cooling of Buildings"	O.Oe. Energiesparverband	www.wsed.at
• 5/3 • Brussels	Seminar on eProcurement in the framework of the EU/Russia cooperation.	European Commission (DG Internal Market and Services)	sabrina.cabanillas-gomez@ec.europa.eu
• 12-13/3 • Trier	ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN LABOUR LAW 2009 Recent developments in legislation and jurisprudence	ERA	www.era.int
• 17/3 • Brussels	Healthy Workplaces. Good for you. Good for business. A European campaign on risk assessment	European Agency for Safety and Health at Work	Brussels Brenda O'Brien obrien@osha.europa.eu (32) 2 401 68 59 Bilbao Jochen Müller jochen.muller@osha.europa.eu (34) 944 793 557
• 17-18/3 • Vienna	The ASI & Marketforce's 14 th Annual Conference: <i>Session Five</i> : LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS INFRASTRUCTURE IN EUROPE	ASI & Marketforce	www.marketforce.eu.com
• 26/3 • Budapest	Conference: "The Potential of PPP in Europe - The 1st Interactive Know-How Delivery Conference"	EPPPC	If you would like to receive the preliminary agenda ,contact: epppc@epppc.hu
• 30/3-1/4 • Maastricht	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) – Practitioners' Workshops Making Public-Private Partnerships Work – A Practical Guide	EIPA	Mr. E 2009 /043

2009			
• 21–23/4 • London	Conference: Sustainable Transport for the C21	PTRC	More information: Sally Scarlett sallys@ptrc-training.co.uk
• 6-14/5 • Brussels	European SME week	EUROPEAN COMMISSION	Mr. E 2008/280 www.european-sme-week.eu
• 14-15/5 • Milan	CEN/CSN Conference 2009	CEN	E-mail : amilcar.dacosta@cen.eu Website : www.cen.eu
• 14-15/5 • Leuven (B)	EFFC Council Meeting & AGM	European Federation of Foundation Contractors	http://www.foundationworld.org
• 19-21/5 • Birmingham (UK)	Conference 'Sustainability Live'		http://www.sustainabilitylive.co m/
• 27-30/5 • Jeju (Korea)	Conference on Construction Engineering and Management/Project Management	ICCEM/ICCPM	http://www.iccem- iccpm.org/mail/mail-02-e.htm
• 5-7/10	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) – Practitioners' Workshop <i>Making Public-Private Partnerships Work – A Practical Guide</i>	European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)	For information, please contact: info@fiec.eu
• 23-25/11 Brussels	ISSA "Construction Conference"	ISSA International Social Security Association	http://www.issa.int/

2010			
• 26-28/5 • London (UK)	DFI-EFFC Conference Geotechnical Challenges in Urban Regeneration	EMAP i.c.w. DFI & EFFC	http://www.emap.com