Equinet High-Level Seminar on Gender Equality

Gender Equality in the Labour Market: the role of Equality Bodies

Thursday – 27 June 2013

VENUE	Institute for the Equality of Women and Men, Rue Ernest Blérot 1, Brussels, Belgium
TARGET AUDIENCE	The seminar is aimed at senior management and experts of national equality bodies, representatives of EU institutions and agencies, other international organisations, national and European NGOs, academic and legal experts, social partners and other institutions active in the field of gender equality.
OBJECTIVES	This High Level Seminar is the first event organized by Equinet following the incorporation of the work of the gender equality bodies' network. It aims at sharing with EU level stakeholders experiences and expertise coming from equality bodies' work on the promotion of gender equality, in particular relating to the implementation of EU legislation and policies in the field. It also aims at providing equality bodies with an overview and a platform for dialogue on EU developments concerning the fight against gender inequalities. The Seminar strives to: • **Allow an exchange between equality bodies, EU institutions and stakeholders on how to best cooperate for the promotion of gender equality and effective tackling of gender inequalities.** • **Present equality bodies' experiences in the implementation of EU policies and legislation in the framework of gender equality in the labour market.** • **Provide a platform for discussion on key priorities, best practices and possible future developments at EU and national level.** • **Position Equinet and national equality bodies' work in the field of gender equality at EU level**
FOLLOW-UP	Equinet will publish a summary report of the seminar and will upload the speakers' presentations on its website at: **www.equineteurope.org/activities/events** In addition to visiting our **website**, you can also follow the work done by Equinet and its 38 European member equality bodies by: • Subscribing to our **monthly newsletter** from our homepage; • Following us on **Facebook** (Facebook.com/EquinetEurope), **Twitter** (@equineteurope), or join the "Equinet Europe" **Linked-In group** if you work for a member organisation.

A G E N D A

Time	Description	
08.30 - 09.00	**Registration and Welcome**	
09.00 - 09.10	**Opening Address** *Jozef de Witte* – Chair of the Equinet Executive Board *Michel Pasteel* – Director, Institute for the Equality of Women and Men (Belgium)	
09.10 – 09.30	**Setting the Scene: Gender equality and the crisis – the role of equality bodies** *Prof. Francesca Bettio*, European Network of Experts on Gender Equality, Co-author of *"The Impact of the economic Crisis on the Situation of Women and Men and on Gender Equality Policies"*	

Videos from campaigns on gender equality from Equinet members (10 minutes)

Time	Description	
09.40 – 11.20	**SESSION 1 – EU Institutions meet Equality Bodies** **Chair: *Néphèli Yatropoulos*, Member of Equinet Executive Board, Defender of Rights (France)**	
09.40 – 10.10	**Opening address and current legal and policy developments on gender equality**	*Andreas Stein* – Head of Unit, Equal Treatment Legislation, European Commission DG Justice
10.10 – 10.25	**The European Parliament current work and key priorities on gender equality and the role for equality bodies**	*Mikael Gustafsson* – Chair of the European Parliament's Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee
10.25 – 10.40	**Equality bodies and the advancement of gender equality: an EIGE perspective**	*Thérèse Murphy* – Head of Operations, European Institute for Gender Equality
10.40 – 10.50	**The work of equality bodies on gender equality**	*Sandra Ribeiro* – President of the Commission for Equality in Labour and Employment (Portugal) and Moderator of Equinet's Gender Equality Working Group

Questions & Answers – Discussion (30 minutes)

Coffee break (20 minutes)

Time	Description	
11.40 – 13.10	**SESSION 2 – Gender Equality in the Workplace** **Chair: *Elke Lujansky-Lammer*, Member of Equinet Executive Board, Ombud for Equal Treatment (Austria)**	
11.40 – 12.10	**The work of equality bodies and their role : legal developments in the field of gender equality**	*Prof. Susanne Burri* – Coordinator of the European Network of Legal Experts in the field of Gender Equality, Associate Professor at the School of Law of Utrecht University

12.10 – 12.20	**Pregnancy and parenthood related discrimination: challenges and possible roles for equality bodies**	*Laurence Bond* – Head of Research and Development, Equality Authority (Ireland), Equinet Member
12.20 – 12.30	**Harassment and sexual harassment at work: challenges and possible roles for equality bodies**	*Maria Karageorgou* – Senior Investigator at the Greek Ombudsman, Equinet Member

Questions & Answers – Discussion (40 minutes)

Lunch (1 hour 20 minutes)

14.30 – 16.15	**SESSION 3 – Equal pay for work of equal value: equality bodies tackling the gender pay gap** **Chair: Clare Hockney, Equality and Human Rights Commission (UK – GB), Equinet Member**
14.30 – 15.30	**Panel debate on the role of equality bodies in tackling the gender pay gap and implementing the provisions on equal pay** **Equinet interviewing:** • **Maria Tomassetti – Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Justice, Gender Equality Unit D2** • **David Joyce – European Trade Union Confederation** • **Emma Ritch – European Women's Lobby** • **Hildegard Van Hove – Institute for the Equality of Women and Men (Belgium), Equinet member**

Questions & Answers – Discussion (45 minutes)

16.15 – 16.30	**Closing of the seminar** *Anne Gaspard* – Executive Director, Equinet