08:00 – 08:45 REGISTRATION

08:45 – 11:45 ROUND TABLES OF MINISTERS OF LABOUR

Introduction and Chair: Heinz Koller, Assistant Director-General, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, ILO
Welcome speech: Muriel Pénicaud, Minister of Labour, France

08:45 – 11:45 ROUND TABLE 1

FOSTERING CONVERGENCE IN EUROPE

Muriel Pénicaud, Minister, Ministry of Labour, France
José António Vieira da Silva, Minister, Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security, Portugal
Petří Hůrka, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Czech Republic
Christos Malikkides, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, Cyprus
Jacob Jensen, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Employment, Denmark
Jovanka Trenchevska, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Macedonia (FYROM)

10:15 – 11:45 ROUND TABLE 2

WHAT ROLES FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ON CONVERGENCE?

Nicolas Schmit, Minister, Ministry of Labour, Employment and the Social and Solidarity Economy, Luxembourg
Helena Dalli, Minister, Ministry for European Affairs and Equality, Malta
Eglė Radišauskienė, Vice Minister, Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Lithuania
Anette Kramme, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany
Peter Pogačar, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Slovenia
Irene Wennemo, State Secretary, Ministry of Employment, Sweden

11.45 – 11.55 COFFEE BREAK

11.55 – 12.50 ROUND TABLE OF EUROPEAN SOCIAL PARTNERS

HOW COULD EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE PROMOTE CROSS-COUNTRY CONVERGENCE?

Introduction and Chair: Manuela Tomei, Director, Conditions of Work and Equality Department, International Labour Office

Esther Lynch, Confederal Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
Maxime Cerutti, Director of Social Affairs, BUSINESSEUROPE
Valeria Ronzitti, Secretary General, Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public services (CEEP)
Véronique Willems, Secretary General, European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (UEAPME)

12.50 – 13.30 CONCLUSIONS AND PROSPECTS

Keynote speech from:
Marianne Thyssen, the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, European Commission
Heinz Koller, Assistant Director-General, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Labour Office

13.30 – LUNCH
Standing buffet outside Laroque conference room
08:30 – 09:30 REGISTRATION

09:30 – 10:00 OPENING

Chair: Manuela Tomei, Director, Conditions of Work and Equality Department, International Labour Office
Philippe Marcadent, Chief, Inclusive Labour Markets, Labour Relations and Working Conditions Branch, International Labour Office
Rudi Delarue, Deputy Head of Unit in DG EMPL, unit D3 – International issues, European Commission

10:00 – 10:40 AN OVERVIEW

What effects of industrial relations on convergence in Europe?
Presentation of the project and its main findings
Daniel Vaughan-Whitehead, Senior Economist, Inclusive Labour Markets, Labour Relations and Working Conditions Branch, ILO

10:40 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:30 SESSION 1

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONVERGENCE: HOW DO THEY INFLUENCE EACH OTHER?

Chair: Helena Dalli, Minister, Ministry for European Affairs and Equality, Malta

The Netherlands: Is long-term income growth ensuring social convergence with better redistribution?
Wiemer Salverda

Portugal: Is social convergence catching up with economic convergence?
Pilar González

Ireland: How did it convert economic growth into upward social convergence?
Philip O’Connell

12:30 – 14:00 LUNCH
UNESCO, restaurant ‘Lowendal’, 7th floor

14:00 – 15:30 SESSION 2

HOW COULD SOCIAL POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS PROMOTE UPWARD CONVERGENCE?

Chair: Ana Paula Bernardo, Deputy Secretary General, UGT, Portugal

Italy: How to involve more marginal groups into economic and social convergence?
Annamaria Simonazzi

Belgium: Wage bargaining and social security as levers for upward convergence
Ive Marx

Spain: Institutional developments such as minimum wages and social protection fostering convergence
Rafael Muñoz de Bustillo Llorente

Perspectives of employers’ and workers’ representatives
Employers: Christos A. Ioannou, SEV, Greece
Trade Unions: Vit Samek, ČMKOS, Czech Republic

DISCUSSION

15:30 – 15:50 COFFEE BREAK

15:50 – 17:30 SESSION 3

WHAT PARTICULAR ROLE FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS?
EXAMPLES OF OPTIMAL OUTCOMES

Chair: Joseph Farrugia, Director General, MEA, Malta

Sweden: Convergence towards better working and living conditions: The crucial role of industrial relations
Dominique Anxo

Germany: Collective bargaining on wages and working time to ensure social alongside economic convergence
Gerhard Bosch

Slovenia: A tradition of partnership in managing economic convergence
Branko Bembič

France: Social partners’ involvement in convergence processes
Pierre Courtiou and Christine Erhel

Perspectives of employers’ and workers’ representatives
Employers: Nicola Harkin, IBEC, Ireland
Trade Unions: Bianca Cuciniello, UIL, Italy

Policy point of view:
Andrej Hunko, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

DISCUSSION

20.00 – 23.00 RECEPTION AND DINNER

Cruise on the Seine, Bateaux-Mouches ‘The Zouave’, Port de la Conférence.

Two private buses will be leaving the Hotel Novotel Paris Centre at 19h30. They will be situated at the 0 level between 19h15 and 19h30 on rue Gaston de Caillavet.