

ANNUAL REPORT [2002]



U E A P M E ' s M e m b e r s UEAPME is the employer's organization representing the interests, at European level, of crafts, trades and SMEs in the European Union and countries applying for accession to the European Union. It is non-profit seeking and non-partisan. Its 75 member organizations, as of December 2002, consist of national cross-sectoral federations, European branch federations and other associate members which support the SME family. Of the 20 million enterprises in the European Union, UEAPME represents more than 7 million which employ over 30 million people. Across the whole of Europe, UEAPME represents over 10 million enterprises with nearly 50 million employees.

U E A P M E ' s A i m s The mission of UEAPME as the 'voice' of crafts, trades and SMEs in Europe is achieved by pursuing the following main aims:

- Supporting the idea of European construction and contributing to European co-operation
- Informing its members on all matters of European Union policy concerning crafts, trades and SMEs and informing EU Institutions about the needs and opinions of UEAPME members
- Supporting its members academically, technically and legally on all EU policy-related matters
- Representing the common interests of its members vis-à-vis the EU Institutions and other international organizations and associations of a public or private nature
- Looking after common tasks entrusted by its members and finding solutions for all problems relating to the above-mentioned aims

1



Foreword by the President	5
Introduction by the Secretary General	7

POLICY AREA ACTIVITIES

Enterprise Policy, Research & Technological Development, Environment, External Relations, Legal Affairs and Economic and Monetary Union	9
Social Affairs, Employment, Training & Culture	20
Economic and Fiscal Policy	26

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Avignon Academy	29
European Sectoral Organizations	31

PRESS WORK

35

COMMITTEES & STRUCTURES

List of the Committees and Working Groups of UEAPME with their respective Chairmen, Vice-chairmen/ Co-ordinators and contact Points in the Secretariat	37
UEAPME Position Papers 2002	38
List of consultative committees where UEAPME is represented at European level (February 2003)	40
UEAPME member organizations	41
UEAPME's Administrative Council	57



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for me to present you with the UEAPME annual report for 2002. This was my last year as President of UEAPME, a year of major results. I mainly refer to UEAPME's first signature of an agreement negotiated in the framework of the European Social Dialogue: the agreement on Tele-work, signed in July 2002. This was a historical moment for the life of my organization, a moment which all the UEAPME family had been striving to achieve for years!

This extraordinary result did not come out of a vacuum: it was the product of a long, intensive and constant involvement of UEAPME in all the European Social Dialogue activities. A clear example of this is my participation both in the meeting with the Troika in Barcelona in March 2002, during the Spanish Presidency of the EU, and in the Social Dialogue Summit in Genval, in November 2002.

The traditional meetings with senior representatives of the Governments holding the Presidency of the EU continued last year as well: UEAPME met both Mr. Bendt Bendtsen, the Danish SME Minister, and Mr. Rocco Buttiglione, the Italian Minister for European Affairs. Once again, I have to thank our national member organizations for initiating these meetings and for allowing UEAPME to convey the message on the need to make Europe more SME-oriented.

I am very pleased to add that 2002 was also a successful year for our sister organizations: the Academy Avignon organized its first pan-European SME Summit in the homonymous town in April 2002 and NORMAPME won a call for tender issued by DG Enterprise aimed at ensuring support to SMEs in the standardization process. This shows that the influence of these entities is bound to increase in the near future.

Therefore, I only have to thank all the Members of my Board and all UEAPME member organizations for the warm support I was given in the last four years! At the same time, I wish the new UEAPME President all the best for the challenging and motivating job that lies ahead of him.



Andrea Bonetti – President of UEAPME



6

Mr. Müller receives from Mr. Bonetti UEAPME's present for his 10 years as UEAPME's Secretary General during the Administrative Council (Brussels, 13-11-02)

2002 began with the introduction of the single currency, the Euro. This was a milestone in the history of the European Union. At the end of the year another important decision was taken in Copenhagen by the heads of states i.e. the admission of ten new member states to the Union.

Besides these two decisions that will have a major impact on the future of the European Union, 2002 was also marked by a historical moment for UEAPME. For the first time, our President signed an agreement in the framework of the European Social Dialogue. We also intensified our collaboration with the partners of the European Social Dialogue, big industry on one side and the trade unions on the other side, by carrying out joint activities in other fields, e.g. common projects. Furthermore, the good contact and joint activities with other organizations at European level, like Eurochambres and Eurocommerce continued. Also in 2002, CEPLIS, the European organization of the liberal professions, started a closer collaboration with UEAPME.

As in previous years, the most important partners, in UEAPME's representation of SMEs and craft businesses at European level, were the European Commission and the European Parliament. We would like to take the occasion to thank them for their collaboration and support. We also had the opportunity to meet with high ranking representatives of different EU Member States and discuss SME policy with them.

One important topic for UEAPME in 2002 was the collaboration with the organizations in the accession countries. We visited our member organizations in the accessions countries, went to Bratislava, Prague, Warsaw, Croatia, Bulgaria, and also to Maribor for the conference that saw the signing of the European Small Business Charter by the accession countries. The European Small Business Charter, which was approved in the spring of 2000 in Lisbon and which reflects SMEs' demands and needs, is an important reference point for the enterprise policy of the EU. UEAPME also intensified its contacts with other partners outside the European Union, namely South Africa and South America.

It is with great interest that UEAPME followed the work of the Convention, which will determine the future of the European Union, as well as the developments in the area of financing (Basle II, Code of conduct Banks-SMEs), of e-business, the 6th framework programme for research and development and the discussion on Corporate Social Responsibility, just to mention a few of the many examples. Last year the Avignon Academy together with UEAPME organised for the first time a specific SME summit in Avignon. The event was a great success which will continue on an annual basis in the future.

All these efforts resulted in an increasing number of national member organizations as well as European sectoral organizations joining UEAPME and individuals rallying round us to defend the interest of SMEs and craft businesses in the past year. I would like to thank them most sincerely.



Hans-Werner Müller – Secretary General of UEAPME

1 [POLICY AREA ACTIVITIES]

PART

Enterprise Policy, Research & Technological Development, Environment, External Relations, Legal Affairs and Economic and Monetary Union

ENTERPRISE POLICY



Mr. Berck (DG Enterprise), Mr. Müller, Mrs. Faes (UNIZO) and Mr. Hendrickx (UEAPME) during the conference on the implementation of the Small Business Charter organised by DG Enterprise (Brussels, 23/24-01-02)

This year again the full implementation of the European Charter for Small Enterprises at European and national level was one of the main objectives of the enterprise policy of UEAPME. Remarkable and encouraging was the endorsement of the Charter by the Candidate Countries in **Maribor**, Slovenia, in April 2002, as it paves the way for a small enterprise policy in an enlarged European Union.

On 23/24 January 2002, the European Commission, DG Enterprise, organised an experts' meeting in Brussels, on the implementation of the European Charter for Small Businesses. More than 80 experts from Member Organizations of UEAPME in the EU and the Candidate Countries participated in this meeting. On the occasion of this conference UEAPME published its "Position Paper for the Preparation of the Experts' Meeting on the Business Environment for Crafts and Small Enterprises". The main findings of this conference were:

- "the think small first" concept should be integrated into all EU actions and SME representatives should be involved in the formulation of policies relevant to SMEs (Best procedure within the MAP for Enterprises, structural reforms and the open method of co-ordination);
- an evaluation of the effective participation of small businesses in the European programmes and actions should be made;
- the need for actions in order to develop counselling, and support services for small enterprises;
- measures to support apprenticeship and mobility of apprentices;
- better access to finance and better relations with banks for small enterprises.

A second experts' meeting, organised by DG Enterprise, on the environment of small businesses and the craft

sector took place on 2 and 3 December. During this meeting, issues specific to small enterprises and the craft sector were discussed, such as the need for more effective representation of small enterprises' interests, business support services and education, vocational training and skills.

On several occasions during the Spanish and Danish Presidency, UEAPME stressed the need for the objectives of the Lisbon-Strategy to be implemented. In a letter addressed to **José Maria Aznar**, Prime Minister of Spain on the occasion of the Conference of European Ministers responsible for SME policy, held in Madrid on 23rd February 2002, as well as during a meeting of UEAPME's Board of Directors and **Mr. Bent Bentsen**, the Danish Minister for Economy and Business Affairs, in Copenhagen, 11th September, UEAPME stressed the need for the full implementation of the European Charter for Small Enterprises. It was highlighted that there was especially a need for less administrative burdens through better and simpler legislation and regulations, a better functioning of the Internal Market and an increase in the effectiveness of the "Business Impact Assessment" of new legislation.

UEAPME also expressed its view during 2 conferences organised by the European Commission namely the **conference on SMEs**, on 23 May, and during the **Business Support Services** conference on 11-12 April in Vienna.

UEAPME participated very actively in the second consultation of the Commission on the updating of Recommendation 96/280/EC concerning the **definition of small and medium-sized enterprises**. In a second position paper on this issue, UEAPME welcomed the initiative, particularly the introduction of a definition of micro-enterprises. We once again reiterated that a clearer and more precise definition of small and micro-enterprises, as proposed in the new Recommendation should be followed up by more targeted programmes at

Community level for these enterprises. UEAPME stressed the need to maintain the number of persons employed at 250 for the definition of SMEs. Indeed, any expansion of that threshold would make it impossible to direct financial support to those micro, small and medium-sized enterprises needing it. Finally, to calculate the number of employees, the term "employee" should cover only workers considered employees under national law, and in no case people working on behalf of an enterprise, because this category includes self-employed persons, commercial agents and sub-contractors.

UEAPME was also consulted by the European Commission on the Consultation Document for a future Policy Paper on **pan-European government e-services**. UEAPME welcomed the Commission's initiative to ensure that all citizens, enterprises and administrations have access to the pan-European e-services of any EU public administration in a seamless way. Easy access to E-services is indeed of the utmost importance especially for small enterprises. The Commission initiative can be a key-point for the general improvement of public administration. Moreover, for UEAPME the core objective of the introduction of e-government should be the reduction of red tape for enterprises, especially small enterprises. E-government might also be an important stimulant for SMEs to go digital, as it can contribute to the reduction of administrative burdens and costs.

At several hearings and international conferences UEAPME presented its views on the Communication concerning **Corporate Social Responsibility**, which is a follow-up to the Green Paper on CSR published last year. UEAPME also became member of the Multistakeholder Forum on CSR, The CSR forum was established in October 2002 by the European Commission to promote innovation, transparency and convergence of CSR practices by increasing knowledge, organising the exchange of experience and good practice and exploring the appro-

priateness of establishing common guiding principles for CSR practices and instruments. UEAPME kept on highlighting the fact that SMEs have a privileged position towards social responsible entrepreneurship and the important role of SMEs as social responsible actors, as well as its special needs and characteristics in this field.

UEAPME's activity in enterprise policy also focused on the achievement of the Internal Market. UEAPME analysed the European Commission's action plan for **"Improving the Single Market for Enterprises and Citizens"**. This action plan, for 2002 and beyond, aims at simplifying the single market rules, and ensure that they are properly enforced. It highlights the need for policy-makers to pay due attention to small businesses needs and ensure that stakeholders are informed of their rights. Furthermore UEAPME decided on its strategy concerning the Report from the European

Commission **"State of the Internal Market for Services"**, after it was analysed by its Member Organizations.

Finally, UEAPME warmly welcomed the **SOLVIT initiative** set up by the European Commission. Businesses occasionally run into problems resulting from possible misapplication of Internal Market rules by public administrations in other Member States. SOLVIT has been set up to resolve such problems as efficiently as possible without the need for legal action. It was officially launched during a Conference on European Business and Citizens Organizations held in Brussels, 30 October 2002 in which UEAPME actively participated. UEAPME stressed that SOLVIT could play an important role in making the Internal market fully work for SMEs, by the agreed deadlines (which it would like to see advanced) and the system's transparency.

RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

6TH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME ON R&D

UEAPME was successful in its lobbying on this dossier. There were discussions at EU level about the 6th Framework Programme since 2000. A final agreement between the European Parliament and the Council was reached in June 2002. This programme with a budget of more than 16 billion euro will run from 2003 to 2006. In the first proposal of 2000 no specific budget for SMEs was foreseen. With the help of the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament 15% of the total budget for integrated programmes is earmarked for SMEs.

We had a positive dialogue with the EU based on our position papers on the 6th Framework Programme.

We were positive about the proposed "collective research" projects in the form of support for the research

carried out by European or national associations. A budget of 100 million euro has been reserved for these projects. We strongly recommended for the continuation of the successful Craft programme. This is a programme for individual SMEs in Europe to enable them to do R&D together. In the 6th Framework Programme a budget of 300 million euro was incorporated for these activities under the heading of "co-operative research".

UEAPME has reservations about the participation of SMEs within the "Integrated Programmes". Although a budget of 1.7 billion euro has been reserved for SMEs, it will not be easy for them to participate because of the large-scale of the projects. Therefore, we are in a constructive dialogue with the European Commission.

Secretary-General Müller was involved as a key-note speaker at the kick-off conference that took place in

Brussels on the 6th Framework Programme, where more than 6.000 participants were present. He was also involved in the SME Technology Days in Leeds, where the specific SME dimensions were discussed.

In September 2002 the European Commission published a Communication called "More research for Europe. Towards 3% of GDP". The aim of the Council of Ministers is that in 2010 more than 3 % of the GDP is invested in R&D, as opposed to the current 1.9%. According to the EU, although governments will have to invest more, two-thirds of the extra investments should come from enterprises. However, UEAPME has noticed that some national governments are not investing more in R&D, but on the contrary spending less on R&D.

EUROPEAN RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD

This important committee advising the Research Commissioner Busquin was established in 2001. UEAPME has two members in this Board: RTD Committee President Ottolini (CONFAPI) and Dr Neumann (ZDH). The importance of the participation of SMEs was highlighted in every meeting, which contributed towards the development of a structural dialogue with the Commission and its services. One of the important items discussed was the above-mentioned 6th Framework Programme.

HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT GROUP ON SMES

The SME-HLEG committee advises directorate-general Research of the European Commission, mainly on the practical aspects of the 6th Framework Programme. It was set-up in 2002 and includes several representatives from our member associations: Berney (Ireland), Lichtmannegger (WKÖ, Austria), Dr Neumann (ZDH, Germany), Russomanno (Confartigianato, Italy), Schröder (UEAPME), Sorbi (CONFAPI, Italy), Timmerman (Unizo, Belgium) and Yvinec (APCM, France).

RTD COMMITTEE

The RTD Committee chaired by its President, Enrico OTTOLINI met 3 times in 2002.

The committee had discussions with Mr. Goenaga (European Commission) on the 6th Framework Programme and we received feedback from our representatives within EURAB and the SME-HLEG (see above). Several possible projects of UEAPME and our member associations within the 6th Framework Programme were presented. Other items discussed, included: the Community Patent, Normapme, the SME technology Days and the 3%-Communication. As a result of these discussions, the TISMA project of UEAPME was set up, with the aim to inform SMEs about the possibilities within the 6th Framework Programme. 14 of our member organization participate in this project which has been forwarded to the Commission and for which we hope to obtain funding in 2003.

ENVIRONMENT



Mrs. Charlotte de Roo (BEUC), Mr. Guido Lena (UEAPME) and Mr. Knud Vilby (Danish Eco-Label Competent Body) during the conference for the 10th anniversary of the Eco-label (Brussels, 02-12-02)

Due to the ever-increasing importance decision-makers place on Sustainable Development and the integration process, environmental policy, both at EU level and within UEAPME, is strengthened. The participation of a senior Commission representative of DG Environment at the General Assembly of UEAPME in November also proves the gradual awareness of the institutions on the important role that SMEs can play in this field.

In 2002, UEAPME was primarily active in the following areas:

ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY

In January, DG Environment presented its long awaited proposal for a Directive on environmental liability, which will have major repercussions on SMEs and micro enterprises. UEAPME reacted immediately by means of position

papers, press releases etc, and contacted various key MEPs and officials of the different institutions. Our views were regularly quoted in different specialised newspapers, confirming the ever-growing recognition of UEAPME in this field. Due to the importance of the issue UEAPME also joined forces with other associations (business representatives and insurers) on various occasions.

PACKAGING AND PACKAGING WASTE

The Commission proposal for the revision of the packaging and packaging waste Directive was on the agenda of our environment committee of March 2002. For the first reading, UEAPME lobbied MEPs and presented a number of amendments on key issues and contacted all the permanent representations to the EU.

WEEE DIRECTIVE

Discussions on the future Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive intensified in 2002. UEAPME lobbied the European Parliament and Council during the 2nd reading and conciliation procedure.

ECO-DESIGN OF END USE EQUIPMENT

Following its Communication on Electrical and Electronic Equipment, the Commission organised early 2002 a conference on the same subject. UEAPME attended the event and appointed Mr. Giorgio Russomanno as expert for the workshop on SMEs. This led to a new draft proposal for a Directive on establishing a Framework for Eco-design of End Use Equipment, on which UEAPME commented at the end of the year.

VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS (VOC)

UEAPME was involved, since the early days, in the discussions surrounding this file. There was a bilateral meeting between UEAPME and the unit in charge of VOCs in DG Environment before the launching of the consultation process. UEAPME also attended the first official consultation organised by DG Environment on its draft proposal on 13 May 2002.

- washing machines ;
- refrigerators;
- tourist accommodation;
- furniture;
- the revision of the DID list.

- kept its members regularly informed on the latest developments.

UEAPME also participated in the **marketing and policy management groups** set up in the framework of the eco-label working plan. The marketing management group aims at coordinating marketing efforts and developing and implementing joint actions. The policy management group aims at developing and adapting the long-term policy and strategy of the scheme, as well as the integration of the eco-label in the various policies relating to sustainable consumption.

PLACING OF PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET

UEAPME attended the workshop organised by the European Commission in Corfou and submitted written comments on the revision of the Directive 91/414/EEC.

VOLUNTARY INSTRUMENTS

In 2002, UEAPME confirmed its attachment to the various voluntary instruments currently in use at EU level.

EUROPEAN ECO-LABEL

The UEAPME service contract with the Commission was extended for the third consecutive year. As in previous years, UEAPME:

- attended the different meetings of the European Eco- Labelling Board and Consultation Forum;
- nominated experts and provided comments for the different Ad Hoc Working Groups (AHWG) in charge of establishing the criteria. UEAPME was involved in the AHGWs on:
 - paints and varnishes;
 - light bulbs;
 - bed mattresses;
 - textile products;
 - detergents for dishwashers;
 - laundry detergents ;

Our promotional activities regarding eco-label included a one-day conference, organised on 24 June in collaboration with UNICE. UEAPME also participated in the celebrations surrounding the 10th anniversary of the EU flower on 1 and 2 December. At the conference plenary, UEAPME was the only employer/manufacturer representative.

Please find more about eco-label on UEAPME's website: www.ueapme.com

EMAS

UEAPME is especially eager in monitoring the implementation of the specific measures for SMEs foreseen by the new Regulation. To this end, UEAPME was asked to chair the working group on Benefits and Incentives of EMAS in the context of the conference on Benefits and Challenges of EMAS II organised by the European Commission on 26-27 June 2002. UEAPME also attended and collaborated in the latest discussions of the Article 14 committee of the EMAS Regulation. UEAPME is also member of the

Working Group in charge of analysing the incentives given by public authorities to EMAS certified companies. Discussions on possible future awareness-raising activities between the Commission and UEAPME are also underway.

BEST - ENVIRONMENT

UEAPME was approached by DG Enterprise and asked to take part in this working group set up to analyse the situation regarding the implementation of Environmental Management Systems in SMEs. UEAPME is specifically in charge of collecting information on how Member States

and applicant countries promote SME-friendly implementation of formal EMSs. The first results are expected in the Autumn of 2003.

Alongside these activities, the environment committee of UEAPME met three times in 2002. Apart from the above-mentioned subjects, the committee also discussed:

- the 6th Environmental Action Programme and the specific measures foreseen for SMEs;
- environmental indicators within the context of the EU strategy on Sustainable Development;
- the environmental aspects of Corporate Social Responsibility.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

In 2002, the activities of the External Relations Committee of UEAPME were overshadowed by the sudden death on 15 May 2002 of its President, Mr. Bruno Menini, vice-president of UEAPME. Our Vice-President was a committed and respected defender of the interests of Crafts and Small and Medium Enterprises, who wholeheartedly contributed his expertise and entrepreneurial knowledge to our work. For many years, President Menini was a driving force in overcoming the fragmentation of interest representation of Crafts and SMEs at European level.

WORKING GROUP ON "EU-LATIN AMERICA"

UEAPME followed closely the developments of the reform of the existing European instruments for economic co-operation with third countries and the drawing up of a new community framework for support to private sector development. The debate initiated in 2001 concerning the implementation of AL-INVESTIII (2003-2006) continued in 2002. Negotiations took place between the representatives of the

European Professional Organizations such as UEAPME so as to consider the possibility to manage the programme themselves and to set up a consortium to this end.

WORKING GROUP ON "EU-MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES"

UEAPME follows an open policy towards its homologue organizations in the Mediterranean Countries that want to co-operate with us. UEAPME proposes to the interested organizations, to sign **partnership protocols** that will establish the framework for future collaboration.

In fact the **Euro Mediterranean free trade zone** foreseen for 2010 is a challenge for both European and Mediterranean SMEs.

UEAPME participated in the **TRESMED programme**, an initiative of the Spanish Social and Economic Committee financed by the MEDA programme of the European



Mr. Müller and Mr. Bonetti meet Mr. Bendt Bendtsen (in the middle between two assistants), Danish Minister for Finance, Trade and Industry (Copenhagen, 11-09-02)

Commission. In the framework of this programme a delegation of trade unions, employers and farmers from Algeria, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco and Tunisia visited Brussels in February 2002 and met UEAPME so as to better understand its role and working system.

16

UEAPME participated in the Working Group on **Euro-Mediterranean Industrial Co-operation** that is co-ordinated by DG Enterprise of the European Commission and is composed of representatives of the Ministries of Industry of the EU and Mediterranean Countries. UEAPME is involved as a social partner and represents the private sector together with other European organizations, in the plenary of this forum and in the expert group.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

UEAPME's secretariat also participated in the Transatlantic Business Dialogue, TABD, an informal process whereby European and American companies and business associations develop joint EU-US trade policy recommendations, working together with the European Commission and US Administration.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Business Support Programme finalised

In June 2002, UEAPME finalised the two projects within the framework of the PHARE Business Support

Programme. While SME Excellence aims to strengthen the SME associations in the Central and Eastern European Candidate Countries (CEEC), SMECA wants to facilitate the transfer of the "community acquis" to the SMEs of this region. The project comprises 23 partner associations including the SME organizations from the 10 candidate countries and was based on bilateral partnerships.

In 2002, the activities focused on

- The organization of about 20 multiplier seminars on these topics.
- The creation and updating of a project website (<http://www.ueapme.com/business-support/>)
- Numerous secondments of EU experts to their CEEC partner association.
- Induction of CEEC representatives in their EU partner association or UEAPME.

One co-ordination meeting took place in 2002: on 24-25 May 2002. The final report was submitted in December 2002.

FOLLOW-UP PROJECT FOR 2003

Given the success of the first two projects, UEAPME decided to submit a proposal under the Business Support Programme 2. The details were determined in a co-ordination meeting, which took place in June 2002. This project will focus on 3 pillars. A "Train the Trainers Programme" to provide training facilities to CEEC countries in areas such as standardisation, environment, safety at work, quality management, social affairs and employability certification; an information campaign "how will the joining to the EU affect my business and bilateral twining" as well as: trainings of staff on how to manage a non profit organization.

The Commission provisionally approved the proposal in November 2002, and the contract was signed on 20.03.2003.

LEGAL AFFAIRS

I. GENERAL POLICY

In 2002, the UEAPME Legal Affairs Committee followed and gave its opinion on several European Commission and European Parliament initiatives concerning legal topics of interest to SMEs. Areas of specific interest in 2002 were consumer protection, the Business Impact Analysis system, security of services, the Community Patent regulation, the defective product liability, sales promotions and possible reforms on Company law.

In addition, an “**ad hoc working group**” was created in 2002 to follow the work of the **Convention** set up by the European Council of Lisbon. (see below).

UEAPME also expressed its view on the **General Reflections on Business Impact Analysis system**. We drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that in general the Business Impact Studies are not adapted to produce data on the impact on small and micro enterprises. They tend to take into account only the impact data on large companies. Moreover, we think that a BIA needs to be widely advertised to the SMEs and that data collection for SMEs is currently totally inadequate. The SME associations do not have the financial, personnel and organizational resources to collect data on future legislation impact. UEAPME pointed out that the SME part of the data collection should be totally financed by the legislators (out of taxes) and proposed that BIA studies for the SME segment of the economy include, among others, large statistical samples of SMEs (in the several thousand for EU); Participation of SME associations in the preparation of the SME questionnaires; SME questionnaires should always contain a succinct explanation of the nature and anticipated impacts of the future legislation; The language of the questionnaires should be the national language of the country and it should be in everyday

language form as opposed to academic or specialist jargon; Questionnaires should be filled out by professional and specialised interviewers, not directly by the small companies. The UEAPME secretariat also participated in a workshop organised by DG Enterprise on this issue.

Simplification was also high on UEAPME’s agenda in 2002. The secretariat participated in numerous working meetings organised by MEPs on this issue and also in a conference organised by the ECOSOC on the 10th of September.

UEAPME has been very active in the field of **consumer protection**. Following the **Green Paper on Consumer protection** of October 2001 and the hearing of December 2001 in which UEAPME participated, the Commission proposed a new follow-up document to the green paper. UEAPME presented its position on this document. UEAPME pointed out that the so-called fair commercial practices were developed in the different Member States, not only to protect consumers but also, in particular, competitors and SMEs. We think that it is unacceptable that an evaluation or deregulation of these measures are handled exclusively from a consumer protection point of view and without taking into account the interests of competitors, SMEs and the general interest. A harmonisation of fair commercial practices at EU-level is only acceptable if they also apply to Business to Business relations.

The Commission decided to propose a framework Directive on fair Commercial practices. Works on the topic will continue in 2003.

Concerning the **motor vehicle distribution and servicing agreements**, the European Commission adopted in February 2002 a draft Regulation to revise the Regulation

1475/95 on the matter. In this draft Regulation the European Commission took account of some proposals of UEAPME .

Concerning **product liability** the European Commission commissioned a Study. UEAPME participated in this study and pointed out that it agrees with the Commission's statement that "any attempt to revise the directive should be guided a priori by a balance" between producers' and consumers' interests. The principles of the current liability system should, therefore, be maintained in order not to upset the balance of the Directive. Indeed, UEAPME does not find that the Directive should be amended as regards the principle whereby the burden of proof lies with the person who wishes to make a claim, bearing in mind that we are within a system of strict liability. But it has to be said that UEAPME member organizations feel that the protection of the Directive establishes this balance. UEAPME has also pointed out that suppliers are occasionally obliged by producers, by means of contracts, to take full responsibility for potential damages. Therefore it is necessary this category of persons is protected by the Directive.

In May 2002 UEAPME participated in a hearing organised by the Commission on the Draft report of the Group of High Level **Company Law** Experts.

UEAPME was also consulted by the European Commission on the report of the Group of experts on Commercial Communication concerning the Regulation of **sponsorship** services in the Internal Market. We pointed out that this matter was not a priority for us and that the SMEs were not able to give detailed information on the legal situation in their Member States concerning sponsoring.

Finally, UEAPME continued lobbying so as to obtain a **patent litigation insurance scheme** for SMEs.

Concerning internal affairs, in 2002, we discussed the possibility of modifying the statutes and changing the

voting system in UEAPME and incrementing the number of Vice-Presidents. At the end of the discussions the decision was taken and the number of Vice-Presidents passed from 6 to 10. The function of treasurer was allocated to one of the Vice-Presidents. However, the voting system remained unchanged.

II. UEAPME WORKING GROUP ON THE CONVENTION ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

The Laeken Declaration on the Future of the European Union was adopted by the European Council in Laeken 2001. The Council decided to convene a Convention consisting of representatives of the Member States, the European Institutions, and the Candidate Countries, in order to create a broad debate and prepare for a forthcoming Intergovernmental Conference. The objective of the Convention was to make proposals for simplification of procedures in order to bring the Union closer to its citizens.

UEAPME created an ad hoc Working Group to follow the work of the Convention and make proposals for the new Treaty. The Working Group met twice in the Spring of 2002. The Working Group discussed actions, assembled information from member associations, and prepared a UEAPME position paper. UEAPME also participated in a number of conferences and information meetings and had personal contacts with a number of members of the Convention.

The main priorities of UEAPME for the new treaty were:

- Inclusion of the essence of the European Charter for Small Enterprises in a new Treaty to give it legal status
- Developing the Social Dialogue on European level with an independent participation of SME representatives
- A better link between subsidiarity and responsibility
- Simplification of procedures and a better balanced decision-making process
- A clear and mandatory consultation process

The Working Group on the Convention on the Future of Europe developed into the Core Group of the Eufrate project which the Avignon Academy proposed and was awarded by the Commission in October 2002. The aim

of Eufrate is to promote the debate in SME and Crafts organizations of the EU and the candidate countries and to bring the contribution of the SMEs to the European Convention. The Eufrate project will continue in 2003.

ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

2002 will be remembered as the year of the successful changeover to the Euro.

95 % of all SMEs had already introduced the Euro into their accounting systems on 1 January 2002. This figure shows that SMEs are able to meet targets, even when these targets are not underpinned by an explicit business plan. 96 % of all SMEs were able to show their prices in Euro, and 97 % were able to issue invoices in Euro. More than 80 % of all citizens expressed their content with the practical change-over.

There had been many warnings that European SMEs would not be ready in time for the introduction of the Euro. The expectations of experts about the pace and the timing of the changeover seemed to be based on a misunderstanding of the management of enterprises, especially SMEs. Whereas many of the experts expected also SMEs to be in the vanguard of the changeover, even large enterprises - conduct-

ing thorough planning - decided in many cases not to move towards the Euro before 1 January 2002.

Two factors were responsible for the successful introduction of the Euro: on the one hand, all SMEs knew that the Euro would come into being on 1 January 2002, and they had to be prepared for this event. On the other hand, the small vanguard of early movers made it possible to test solutions which could then be transferred to SMEs. And finally: consumers accepted the Euro immediately and were very well aware that in the first two weeks there could be some constraints in the change-over process.

During the first months of 2002, the European Monetary Union (EMU) working group members were informed on a regular basis about all issues or problems related to the introduction of the Euro in the different Member States. They were also questioned about the need for 1 and 2 cent coins.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING & CULTURE

SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT

UEAPME's activity in the field of social policy has been characterised by continuity in representing and defending the interests of artisans and SMEs at the highest level. In 2002, UEAPME clearly confirmed its position in the European social dialogue by participating in many major negotiations.

I. STRONG TIMES FOR THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN 2002

1. Signing by UEAPME of its first European framework agreement, following negotiations begun in 2001, on telework.

On 16 July 2002, UEAPME was able for the first time in its history to sign an agreement negotiated by the European inter-professional social partners (UNICE, CEEP, UEAPME, ETUC). The signature of this agreement marks the end of long years of persuasion to be fully recognized as a full social partner.

This signature alongside of the other social partners represents a decisive step in the recognition of UEAPME.

The agreement on telework equally marks a new development in the European social dialogue. For this voluntary agreement, the European social partners did not have to refer to the European institutions for the decision on the instrument for implementation in the Member States, but instead directly engaged their members so that this agreement was transposed at national level in conformity with national practices and traditions.

2. Negotiation of the first multi-annual work programme of the European social partners (2003-2005)

On 27 November 2002, UEAPME presented together with the other European social partners (UNICE, CEEP, ETUC) the first joint work programme of the social partners to the Social Dialogue Summit.



Joint signature of the agreement on Telework in the framework of the European Social Dialogue (from left to right: Mr. Emilio Gabaglio, Secretary General of ETUC, Mrs. Anna Diamantopoulou, European Commissioner for Social Affairs, Mr. Georges Jacobs, President of UNICE, Mr. Rainer Plassman, Secretary General of CEEP, and Mr. Bonetti) (Brussels, 16-06-02)

The Social Dialogue Summit, which also included for the first time the candidate countries, took place in the presence of European Commission President Romano Prodi and Commissioner Anna Diamantopoulou.

This multi-annual work programme for the social dialogue marks a turning-point in the European social dialogue. For the first time the European inter-professional social partners have succeeded in establishing a structured programme for a more autonomous social dialogue, following their joint declaration to the European Council of Laeken in December 2001.

This programme presents three main priorities, employment, enlargement and mobility, and covers a period of three years (2003-2005).

3. Negotiation of a "Framework of Actions for the Life-long Development of Competences and Qualifications"

Jointly with the other European inter-professional social partners, (UNICE, CEEP, ETUC), UEAPME presented the "Framework of Actions for the Life-long Development of Competences and Qualifications" to the heads of state and government and the European Presidency at the

European Spring Summit in Barcelona in March 2002. This framework of actions, negotiated between the social partners represents one of their principal contributions to the Lisbon Strategy.

The framework of actions identifies four priorities at European level, which must be promoted and transposed in the Member States via initiatives at all levels. A follow-up procedure is foreseen with the elaboration of annual reports at European level leading, after global evaluation, to an updating of the identified priorities. The first report was presented to the Spring Summit in March 2003.

4. Social Dialogue and Enlargement

Following the conference in Bratislava in March 2001, the social partners in the candidate countries participated for the first time in January 2002 in Brussels in an enlarged Social Dialogue Committee. UEAPME was represented by Poland and Slovakia.

Project "The social *acquis communautaire* and SMEs in the candidate countries"

UEAPME launched a bilateral pilot project jointly with the European Trade Union Confederation "The social *acquis communautaire* and SMEs in the candidate countries" in four countries (Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia). The objective of this project is to establish a relation and a climate of confidence between the members of UEAPME and the countries and trade union organizations in order to promote the access of the organizations representing crafts and SMEs to the bipartite national social dialogue in these countries.

5. FUTURISME (Future of social dialogue in SMEs)

Project Coordinator: Gerhard Huemer

With the support of the European Social Funds UEAPME started a second project on the Future of Social Dialogue in SMEs in 2002. The main focus of FUTURISME II is on adaptability and employability regarding the development of the new economy. The target groups of this project are

regional and sectoral SME employers' organizations, for which we provide a whole range of discussion papers on relevant items for negotiations. Furthermore, together with our Member Organizations, UEAPME organises tailor-made seminars for negotiators at different levels.

The extension of the subjects, which are dealt with in the Social Dialogue, makes it more and more interesting also for organizations which are not official social partners at national level, but which are involved in training or regional development. The project will also deal with a better involvement of these member organizations.

II. SOCIAL POLICY AND EMPLOYMENT

1. The European Employment Strategy

As in previous years, UEAPME participated actively in all the consultations organised at European level on the annual procedure of the European Employment Strategy.

In 2002, the European Employment Strategy was reviewed and evaluated after five years of implementation, which led to a reflection by all actors on the global revision of the strategy. UEAPME made its position on the revision of the European Employment Strategy clear, emphasising the need for simplifying the process, the weaknesses in terms of content (notably in the second pillar "Entrepreneurship"), the necessity for better implementation of the guidelines at national level and more involvement of the social partners as well as better coordination and synergy between the processes of the broad orientations and economic policy and the employment guidelines. Furthermore, UEAPME regularly participated in exchanges on this subject with the Employment Committee.

2. Health and Safety in the Workplace

UEAPME intervened at several levels in the publication by the European Commission of its communication "Adapting to change in work and society: a new strategy on health and safety at work 2002-2006". UEAPME participated in a public hearing on this new European strat-



Preventisme good practice award ceremony (from left to right: Mrs. Christa Schweng, Chairwoman of the UEAPME Social Affairs Committee, Mr. Müller, Ms. Liliane Volozinskis (UEAPME) and Mr. Hans-Horst Konkolewski, Director of the European Agency of Health and Safety at Work in Bilbao) (Brussels, 26-06-02)

egy in the European Parliament in June 2002, at the invitation of the reporter Stephen Hughes. At the same time, UEAPME elaborated a position paper, in which it welcomed the consolidation of a risk prevention culture, but warned against an excess of regulation in the field of health and safety, underlining the need to elaborate guides for SMEs in order to facilitate the implementation of the application of directives in this field. The position paper also recognized the importance of well-being at work whilst warning the Commission against attaching too much importance to these new risks (notably psychosocial risks) at the expense of the more traditional risks.

Project "Preventisme -Prevention of accidents in SMEs"

Still in the field of health and safety at work, UEAPME launched an internet site, "www.preventisme.org", as part of its Preventisme project, which presents practical solutions found by enterprises for preventing accidents in SMEs.

3 .Social Protection

UEAPME has continued its participation in the Pensions Forum, institutionalised in July 2001, where the work is essentially concentrated on obstacles to mobility. In this context, UEAPME presented its contribution to the European debate on pensions. UEAPME also participated

regularly in the discussions between the Social Protection Committee and the European social partners.

4. European Monitoring Centre on Change (EMCC)

As member of the Steering Committee, UEAPME actively participated in the different reflections on the setting up of a database and a portal (www.emcc.eurofound.eu.int), which was officially launched on 21 November 2002 during the European Employment week.

5. Principal consultations of the European social partners by the European Commission in accordance with Article 138 of the Treaty

- Anticipating and managing change – A dynamic approach to the social aspects of enterprise restructuring" - (first stage consultation of the social partners)
- Portability of supplementary pension rights - (first stage consultation of the social partners)
- Protection of workers' personal data - (second stage consultation of the social partners).
- Framework for the promotion of employees financial participation – (follow-up to the first stage consultation of the social partners).
- UEAPME has systematically responded to each of these consultations with a written position.

6. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

This subject, which has been discussed in depth in 2002 with the creation of the multi-lateral EU Forum on CSR, is developed in the chapter on Enterprise Policy.

7. Convention

In the debate on the Convention, the concept of good governance and the social dimension, UEAPME has elaborated a position on the future development of the European social dialogue. UEAPME's specific contribution is presented in the Legal Affairs Chapter.

III. SPECIFIC LOBBYING ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

- Proposal for a directive concerning the working conditions of temporary workers

- Proposal for a directive on the protection of workers from exposure to physical agents - noise
- Proposal for a Council recommendation on the application of health and safety legislation to self-employed workers
- Communication of the Commission on Corporate Social Responsibility.

Here again, UEAPME has elaborated a position paper on each of these subjects.

IV. INTERNAL ACTIVITIES

Following the nominations made at the end of 2001, the nominations for the social dialogue structures remained the same in 2002.

Social Dialogue Structures	UEAPME representatives
1. Social Dialogue Committee	Mr. Benne Van POPTA (MKB) + Secretariat UEAPME
a. Working group "Macro-economy"	Mr. Patrice CHEVALLIER - APCM + Secretariat UEAPME
b. Working group "Labour Market"	Mr. Riccardo GIOVANI (Confartigianato) + Secretariat UEAPME
c. Working group "Education and Training"	Mr. Karl SPELBERG (ZDH) + Secretariat UEAPME
2. Standing Committee on Employment	Mr. Martin Mayr (WKÖ), Mr. Hans-Werner Müller

V O C A T I O N A L T R A I N I N G



Meeting of UEAPME's Board of Directors with the Italian Minister for European Affairs, Mr. Rocco Buttiglione, in order to prepare the Italian Presidency of the EU (from left to right: Mr. A. Pignatti Morano, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the EU, Mr. Patrick Venturini, Secretary General of the ECOSOC, Mr. Rocco Buttiglione and Mr. Bonetti) (Brussels, ECOSOC, 04-12-02)

The formal, informal and non formal education and vocational advanced training has a decisive impact on the development of European craft and SMEs. On the one hand SMEs depend on well qualified employees to survive in an increasingly competitive environment, on the other hand we witness a permanent learning process, even if it is often not formally certificated. SMEs are supporting "learning by doing" in many ways, but more than a third of them are offering their employees the possibility to take part in continuing education measures. Furthermore the role of SMEs as a provider of apprenticeship places and operational advanced training is a very important one.

UEAPME believes that educational and training systems should be adjusted to national needs. However issues concerning professional training are becoming more and more important at European level, especially with reference to the debate on the mutual recognition of diploma and qualifications. There is a need for increased mobility

within and between the EU Member States. Language and IT skills remain central to the basic qualifications that are necessary for permanent employment. These are increasingly joined by further key qualifications, mainly in the fields of personality and leadership.

In the last year the relevant Commission DG was very anxious to develop quality and transparency criteria in the field of education, concerning also issues of non formal and informal education. UEAPME and the member organizations' experts succeeded in bringing the SMEs interests into working groups and conferences.

It was UEAPME's special concern at all meetings to reduce bureaucracy concerning educational and vocational training issues. This had high importance particularly concerning the development programs. To make it possible for more SMEs to participate in these mobility supporting projects and programs it is necessary to simplify them even more.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong Learning is a must for the survival of all craft and SMEs at all levels, from the entrepreneur to the young people in vocational training. That is the reason for UEAPME's participation in the discussion of "Lifelong Learning" in the Social Dialogue. The Barcelona framework was pursued and a first interim report was presented by the European social partners, this proved encouraging in many fields. A lot of working groups and committees will be reorgan-

ised in response to the forthcoming enlargement. It is UEAPME's aim to have the opportunity to introduce the particular interests and needs of SMEs and craft in official and unofficial committees independently or as a part of the social partners. It is another aim to continue pressing for arrangements to be coordinated with the possibilities and needs of craft and SMEs.

It is also UEAPME's aim to support the Council's vision that Lifelong Learning has to accompany a successful transfer to a knowledge-based economy and society.

CULTURE

With the departure of the President of the Culture Committee, Dr. Leitner of the WKÖ, in June 2002, the activity of the Culture Committee has been somewhat limited.

The main objectives were, however, clearly recalled at the meeting in Sweden, namely, to promote European exchanges in the field of the art professions, to network the centres of excellence specialized in patrimony in order to promote the exchange of apprentices, young

people in training and teachers/trainers.

A good illustration of this is the SMART project on transnational mobility in the field of the art professions.

In 2002, the internet site www.moveart.org was created to offer a global service to every person or institution wishing to realise a mobility project in the art professions (currently 3 areas, glass, ceramics and decoration in France, Italy and Portugal.)

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY

UEAPME'S PROGRAMME FOR GROWTH AND STABILITY

Europe's economy started the year 2002 with a sharp downturn, caused by the burst of the bubble on the stock markets, political uncertainty, negative risks on the oil market and many home-made problems. In order to highlight the internal shortcomings and to present SMEs point of view on how the environment for our enterprises can be improved, UEAPME's General Assembly 2002 adopted a "European Programme for Growth and Economy". This programme focuses on short term support measures for economic growth and for structural changes, on necessary policies to stabilise public households and underlines also the responsibility of the different actors in policy making.

Read more:

http://www.ueapme.com/docs/pos_papers/0211_growth_programm_final_en.doc

MACROECONOMIC DIALOGUE

- The critical economic situation was also at the focus of the discussions at various meetings (expert and political level) of the Macro Economic Dialogue in 2002:
- The crises in 2002 made very clear that fiscal and monetary policy measures alone are not able to bring Europe's economy out of the slow growth path. Even though there is a wide understanding amongst experts that structural changes on the labour market and regarding public services are also necessary, the Trade Unions refuse to even discuss these issues.

There was also a common understanding that the original target for budget deficits (close to balance or surplus until 2004) will not meet the challenges of the economic situation and would have a further negative influence on economic development. This debate resulted in a new interpretation of the Stability and Growth Pact, which gives the Governments more room for manoeuvre.

During the meeting in autumn 2002, both the employers and the trade unions criticised together for the first time the policy of the European Central Bank and its single focus on inflation rates, which was not supportive to economic growth. In December 2002, the ECB finally reduced the interest rates by 50 basic points.

JOINT DECLARATION FOR THE BARCELONA SUMMIT

On the eve of the Barcelona Spring Summit on Economic and Social Policy the four European Business Organizations issued for the first time a joint declaration to the Heads of State. In a letter to the Governments the organizations blame them for not delivering the promises made at the last Summits in Lisbon and Stockholm. The fact that the Governments are not implementing them is the cause of the worsening economic situation in Europe.

Read more: http://www.ueapme.com/docs/press_releases/pr_2002/Press%20release.doc

TAXATION POLICY

After issuing a communication on company taxation, the European Commission started a European wide debate in Spring 2002 on reforms in the field of Company taxation. Of special interest for SMEs is the idea of testing a model of "Home State Taxation for SMEs". Such a model would allow an SME, which works across borders, to make its tax statement only on the basis of the company taxation system of the home country. One of the main advantages of the proposal is the fact that it can be implemented by bilateral or multilateral agreements between Member States without unanimity voting in the Council. UEAPME is working closely together with the European Commission on the development of such an experiment.



Joint press conference of EUROCHAMBRES, EUROCOMMERCE, UEAPME and UNICE before the Barcelona European Summit (from left to right: Mr. Philippe de Buck, Secretary General of UNICE, Mr. Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES, Mr. Xavier Durieu, Secretary General of EUROCOMMERCE and Mr. Müller) (Brussels, 21-02-02)

At the end of 2002 the experiment on a “reduced VAT rate for labour intensive services” should have been finished. Due to the fact that there were not sufficient reports from the Member States on the effects and the Commission was not able to make final proposals as to whether the experiment should be stopped or made permanent, UEAPME asked for a prolongation in order to get enough time for discussions. This was accepted by the Member States, who decided in December 2002 on a one-year extension.

RELATION TO BANKS

The most important issue in 2001 was the debate about a new capital accord (Basel II). After strong criticism from the whole SME family in Europe about the unacceptable second consultation paper, the Basel Committee was ready to make its proposal more SME friendly. Without being able to state that all problems are solved, UEAPME together with other organizations achieved some relevant improvements:

- credits up to 1 million Euro will be treated as retail credits (like credits for private households);
- flattening of the risk curve for credits up to 50 Million Euro
- acceptance of physical collateral
- less administrative obligations for small credit institutes
- better treatment of long-term credits
- The most important question, which has not been solved yet, is the treatment of business start-ups and business transfers. For these, an extension of credit guaranty schemes will play an important role.

In order to support SMEs and SME banks for the implementation of the new regulatory capital rules, UEAPME together with other business organizations launched negotiations with the representatives for the bank sector on a “Code of Conduct” between Banks and SMEs. This Code should contribute to improving the mutual understanding of both sides and to foster transparency within the credit process, especially regarding the new rating models.

1ST CRAFT, TRADE AND SME SUMMIT IN AVIGNON

On 12th and 13th April 2002 UEAPME and Academy Avignon organised for the first time a European Summit for Crafts, Trades and SMEs in Avignon, the city which gave the name to our Academy. Thanks to the Chambre de Métiers du Vaucluse and the regional authorities, this event took place at the famous Palace of the Popes in Avignon.

During this event high representatives from our whole SME family in Europe had the opportunity to discuss upcoming SME policy issues at European level. On the agenda were the SME policy agenda of the incoming European presidency of Denmark, the policy implications of recent studies from the Academy Avignon (Shadow Economy, Cross-border business co-operations and Social dialogue) and a more general debate about the different needs of owner enterprises and manager enterprises. Regarding the last point, their different role in society was also raised as an important argument.

2 [PROJECT ACTIVITIES]

PART

AVIGNON ACADEMY

(European Academy for Craft Trade and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises)

Project coordinator	Blando Palmieri
Secretariat	Doris Rabetge
Head of projects	Stefan Hlawacek Ludger Fischer

GENERAL POLICY

The Academy during 2002 has pursued the following aims of general policy: 1) to valorize the research results; 2) to ensure continuity to the research activity; 3) to promote the research and innovative tool of information; 4) to increase the diffusion of European knowledge to key SMEs actors; 5) to increase its institutional recognition at European level.

VALORISING THE RESEARCH RESULT

The Academy has taken all the opportunities to present the results of the research conducted by the Academy in cooperation with UEAPME organizations (Confartigianato, CNA, WKO, ZDH).

The 1st European Summit of SMEs and Craft which took place in Avignon on 11 to 13 April 2002 was an important occasion for the dissemination to the UEAPME organizations of the innovative aspects of the results of the research on undeclared work, the policy mix to be adopted and the possible role of the European institutions.

A Master Class was also organized in Brussels on 5 July 2002 to discuss the research result with highly qualified representatives of SMEs and Crafts, academics, SMEs organization leaders and European institutions. Important

aspects debated were the contribution of the tax policy of the Commission and of the European Regional policy to reducing undeclared work.

The outcome of the research on "Innovative forms of cooperation for SMEs in the single market" was demonstrated to UEAPME members during the UEAPME General Assembly held in Brussels on 14 November. The research showed that cross-border cooperation has increased by 21% even with differences between the countries and sectors. Considerable potential for cooperation still exists, however, and needs to be promoted at the various decision-making and planning levels.

ENSURING CONTINUITY TO THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH

Continuity regarding central issues of the European policy for small and craft enterprises is crucial to support the SME organization initiative and to better characterize the Academy activity. Therefore the Academy has set up a Scoreboard on the Charter for small enterprises to periodically assess the implementation of the Charter by the Member States and by the Commission. A report will be published in the second part of this year.

DIFFUSING RESEARCH STUDIES: THE "AVIGNON E"

The Academy has continued the work for the publication of the scientific electronic journal for SMEs and Craft: "AvignonE". A first issue of the journal where it is possible to find a group of peer review articles, is accessible at



From left to right: Mr. Gerhard Huemer (UEAPME), Mr. Jens Karlsson (Företagarna), Mr. Peter Vesterdorf (Chairman of UEAPME's Legal Affairs Committee) and Mr. Franz Bamberger (UEAPME's Vice-president) at the 1st SME Summit organised by the Avignon Academy (Avignon, 12/13-04-02)

the Academy web site www.academyavignon.net. More work is going on to ensure the continuity of the electronic publications and to make "AvignonE" the e-journal of SMEs and Craft which is innovative in terms of the themes treated and the quality of its scientific contributions.

INCREASING SKILL: EUROPEAN TRAINING ACTIVITY

The increase of skill of the SME representatives in European matters is considered by the Academy as a field of work for the benefit of the European activity of SME Organizations. Therefore the Academy will organize 2 types of training during 2003: the first being short-term workshops on politically important issues coming up in the work of UEAPME. The second will be to disseminate good practice in order to enable the participating organizations to better deal with certain issues of EU related matters.

All training and workshops are to be organized in close cooperation between the Academy and the national member organizations

PARTICIPATING IN EUROPEAN PROJECTS

Participation in European projects has been part of the strategy of the research activity. In this sense the Academy has promoted through a multidisciplinary network including experts from UEAPME organizations, ETUC and representatives and research centres, within the Leonardo da Vinci program, a study of new criteria for the visibility and the validation of informal learning in SMEs and Crafts.

The study has shown that competences in SMEs and Craft trades are acquired in a specific way and therefore can be validated on the basis of criteria and rules and not by using methods based on objective proof.

The Academy has developed the research on validation of informal learning in SMEs as a result of the participation in the project Futurisme I promoted by UEAPME with the aim of anticipating the future training needs in SMEs in the perspective of the development of continuous training.

For more information please contact:
info@academyavignon.net

European Sectoral Organizations

Co-ordinator:	Oliver Loebel
----------------------	---------------

CO-OPERATION WITH EUROPEAN SECTORAL ASSOCIATIONS

The number of European sectoral associations affiliated to UEAPME has steadily increased over the past few years. They deliver valuable input to the UEAPME activities and increase UEAPME's expertise in a number of specific areas. In return, UEAPME offers a whole range of services to these associations to strengthen the European activities. These services include

- transmitting branch-specific information and addresses of potential members,
- organising meetings, supporting the drafting of position papers,
- opening doors to specific EU committees,
- identifying speakers from the European Commission and the European Parliament,
- accompanying representatives from sectoral associations to meetings with EU officials, and
- providing meeting rooms free of charge.

SECTOR FORUMS

The strategy of offering joint discussion forums for associations representing related activities was further developed in 2002. Three additional forums were set up: the "Foodstuffs", "Construction" and "Tourism" Forums.

Additional forums can be created on request of members.

Working group on foodstuffs

Several food scandals forced the European Commission to enact measures to ensure consumer's confidence in their food.

UEAPME's Working Group on Foodstuffs, a task force of about 20 experts, representing the specialised knowledge of UEAPME's member-organizations regarding food production and distribution, met several times in 2002 to discuss the effects of the new legislation, laid down in regulations and directives, on SMEs.

The working group succeeded with a proposal for an SME-fitting formulation of the Regulation on official food and feed controls. After UEAPME's intervention, the proposed Regulation, which lays down the rules to be respected by the competent authorities responsible for carrying out official controls, will streamline, reinforce and make the existing control systems more effective.

UEAPME, who represented the interests of small businesses in the food sector during the pre-communication consultation procedure, helped the Commission to find a solution, which strengthened necessary checks without endangering SMEs with excessive costs and red tape. In its proposal the Commission decided to take into consideration the importance of the turnover as well as the quality and intensity of the own checks already carried out by feed and food businesses. The decision reinforces the responsibility of owners of small food businesses without jeopardising product safety.

Furthermore, the Commission proposes to regard multiple official control activities that are carried out in feed

and food establishments as a single activity implying the elimination of multiple fees for one type of safety control. This is a true success for SMEs who feared disproportional costs for additional food safety checks.

This proposal goes to prove that required controls on food safety can also be carried out properly through regulations that are effective and do not engender excessive burdens for SMEs.

The new proposal will be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council in 2003 and will be adopted under the co-decision procedure. UEAPME hopes that the interests and concerns of European SMEs in the food and feed sector will continue to be taken on board in the next legislative stage.

According to the general principles and provisions of food legislation, the European Council laid down a traceability obligation that must be fulfilled at every phase of production, processing and distribution of foodstuffs. Enterprises are bound to set up procedures enabling them to identify suppliers of goods and the companies their products have been delivered to. This traceability obligation will be enforced from 1 January 2005.

UEAPME therefore will try to be involved in a project on traceability, supported by the European Commission under the 6th research framework programme, to ensure that the special needs of SMEs regarding the traceability will be taken into account.

Construction sector forum

Eight European construction associations representing various building trades are associate UEAPME members. Taking into account the number of EU initiatives in this area, the construction sector forum responds to a real need. This forum met twice in 2002: on 21 March and 10 October. Discussions focused on current issues such as

the public procurement directives, VAT rates on labour intensive services, qualification of construction enterprises and others.

In May 2002, the Forum agreed on its first joint position paper reacting to new developments related to the public procurement directives.

Health care sector forum

This forum was re-launched in 2001 with the principal objective to co-ordinate the interest representation of the producers of external medical devices under the Medical Device Directive. In the beginning of 2002 the forum obtained observer status at the EU Medical Device Expert Group enabling the group to present their concerns directly to Member States, competent authorities and the European Commission. Two meetings took place in 2002: 20 March and 3 October. The focus was placed on the recognition of professional qualifications and the functioning and revision of the medical devices directive. In November 2002, the forum issued a joint position paper related to the medical devices directive.

Tourism Working Group (attached to the Economic and Fiscal Affairs Committee)

As tourism in the broad sense is of high importance to crafts, trades and SME, the Administrative Council of UEAPME agreed in 2001 on the creation of an Ad hoc Working Group on "Tourism" in the framework of the Economic and Fiscal Committee. The activities of the working group were limited in this start-up phase to disseminating information to the members on European activities and policy in the field of tourism, to establishing contacts with Commission officials and to participating in conferences. The aim of the Working Group in 2003 is to continue the dissemination of information and to concentrate on some specific issues.

OFFERING SECRETARIAL SERVICES

The third and highest level of co-operation consists in offering tailor-made agreements on secretarial services for trade associations. Following the needs of the sectoral association, such services may include information research and distribution, preparation and follow-up of meetings, interest representation and others.

In 2002, UEAPME collaborators were managing the European secretariats of the following associations:

- Comité Européen des Équipements Techniques du Bâtiment
- Génie Climatique International - Union International de la Couverture et de la Plomberie

Union Internationale des Entrepreneurs de la Peinture

International Association of Orthotists and Prosthetists

3 [PRESS WORK]

PART

PRESS WORK

It is safe to say that over the last years UEAPME has gradually become the reference SME organization in Brussels. It has consistently improved its competencies and capabilities in such a way that European institutional bodies, business organizations and professional organizations always seriously consider its point of view. Furthermore, UEAPME is one of the few business organizations at European level that not only follows all of the relevant dossiers but also actively contributes to policy-making debates. However, in order to further consolidate UEAPME's position in Brussels, the increased recognition of its competencies had to be accompanied by a greater effort in public relations. Therefore, UEAPME decided to start a new media strategy by hiring a press officer to coordinate this new task.

It is indisputable that many challenges lie ahead of our new media strategy. There are still many battles that have to be won so as to make our work more visible to the media and the public. Nonetheless, the early results and achievements of our presswork are very encouraging. Here are a few examples of our accomplishments in the last three months of 2002:

- We have established relations with the journalists of the main Brussels European media
- Regularly published by the Brussels based EU media
- UEAPME is seen as a source of information for subjects relevant to SMEs
- Set up media partnerships with EU information website portals and electronic newspapers
- Created and managed a press room on UEAPME's website
- Issued press releases on a continuous basis



Mr. Raphaël Anspach, UEAPME's Press Officer

Our next task will be to focus on the different national media representatives here in Brussels, as it is of vital importance that UEAPME's work for SMEs is published in the different European countries. In that perspective a more systematic contact with our press officers from members organizations will also be launched.

4 [COMMITTEES AND STRUCTURES]

PART

List of the Committees and Working Groups of UEAPME with their respective Chairmen, Vice-chairmen/ Co-ordinators and Contact Points in the Secretariat

(Situation as in December 2002)

Committees and Working Groups	Chairmen and Co-ordinators	Secretariat
Economic and Fiscal Affairs	H.E. Schleyer (ZDH - D)	Gerhard Huemer
• Working Group Finance and Relations with Banks	R. Suominen (SY - SF)	Gerhard Huemer
• Working Group Structural Funds	N.N.	Luc Hendrickx
• Working Group Taxation	C. Roy-Chowdhury (Acca - UK)	Gerhard Huemer
• Working Group EMU	A. Henkel (WKÖ - A)	Luc Hendrickx
• Working Group Tourism	N.N.	Luc Hendrickx
Legal Affairs	P. Vesterdorf (Håndværksrådet - DK)	Maria Cimaglia
• Working Group on the Convention	P. Vesterdorf (Håndværksrådet - DK)	Christina Linderholm
Social Affairs	C. Schweng (WKÖ - A) G. Sciarri (C.N.A. - I) Vice-Chairman	Liliane Volozinskis Emma Stringfellow
Environment	G. Russomanno (Confartigianato - I)	Guido Lena Christel Davidson
Culture	N.N.	Liliane Volozinskis
Vocational Training	D. Philipp (ZDH - D)	Stefan Hlawacek
External Relations	N.N.	Luc Hendrickx
• Working Group Central and Eastern European Countries	UEAPME Secretariat	Stefan Hlawacek
• Working Group Mediterranean Countries	A. Benassi (Confartigianato - I)	Maria Cimaglia
• Working Group International Trade	A. Henkel (WKÖ - A)	Luc Hendrickx
• Informal Working Group Latin America	R. Vila (Pimec-Sefes - Merger Group)	Maria Cimaglia
RTD and Innovation	E. Ottolini (Confapi - I) J.P. Courseille (APCM - F) Vice-Chairman	Ullrich Schröder
Ad hoc Working Group on Food Safety	UEAPME Secretariat	Ludger Fischer

UEAPME Position Papers 2002

N°	Date:	Languages	Title:
1.	January 2002	E-I	Position Paper on the Green Paper "Promoting a European Framework for Corporate Social Responsibility" - COM(2001) 366 final
2.	January 2002	E-F-D-I	Position on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and the Council amending Directive 2000/13/EC as regards indication of the ingredients present in foodstuffs (COM(2001) 433 final as well as the approximation of the laws (...) relating to labelling (...)
3.	12.02	E	Opinion on the Commission decision establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to paints and varnishes - Draft of 24.01.2002
4.	13.02	E	Opinion on the Commission decision establishing ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to light bulbs - Draft of 24.01.2002
5.	14.02	E	Opinion on the Commission decision establishing ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to bed mattresses - Draft of 11.12.2001
6.	15.02	E	Opinion on the Commission decision establishing ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to textile products - Draft of 10.01.2002
7.	27.02	E-F	First phase of consultation of the social partners - Anticipating and managing change: a dynamic approach to the social aspects of corporate restructuring
8.	February 2002	E	General Reflections on the Business Impact Analysis system
9.	March 2002	E	Position paper on the Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the Implementation of the European Charter for Small Enterprises - COM(2002) 68 final
10.	14.03	E	Remarks on the possibility presented by Directorate General Environment of the European Commission to further reduce VOC emissions (documents prepared by Directorate General Environment for the consultation meeting at European level on 21st November 2001)
11.	27.03	E	Development of a Draft Commission Decision establishing the ecological criteria for the award of a Community Eco-label to tourist accommodation
12.	5.04	E	Vote in Plenary of the Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
13.	8.04	E	Suggestions on the 25th February 2002 draft Eco-Label criteria for laundry detergents as well as on the documents distributed in order to prepare the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Laundry Detergents on 4th March 2002
14.	April 2002	E	Position on Consolidated Corporate Tax Base
15.	April 2002	E	Proposal for a Directive amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste - Amendments proposed by UEAPME for the first reading in the Environment Committee of the European Parliament
16.	16.05	E	UNICE and UEAPME call on European Parliament to improve the Proposal on environmental liability
17.	22.05	E	EUEB meeting of 28 May 2002: Remarks as regards the latest draft criteria on Paints and Varnishes, Mattresses and Light Bulbs
18.	31.05	E	Opinion on 23rd May 2002 draft Commission Decision establishing revised ecological criteria for the award of Community Eco-Label to laundry detergents and amending Decision 1999/476/EC
19.	June 2002	E	Discussion paper on the issue "Data sharing and access - avoid monopolies/SMEs protection" to be presented at the workshop on the amendment of Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market
20.	17.06	E	Position Paper on the Consultation Document for a future Policy Paper on pan-European government e-services (ENTR-D-2/PMU D(2002))
21.	18.06	E-F	Position Paper on the proposal for a directive concerning the working conditions of temporary agency workers
22.	30.06	E-F	Position Paper on the proposal for a Council Recommendation concerning the application of legislation governing health and safety at work to self-employed workers
23.	June 2002	E	Position Paper on the Future of Europe - A dynamic and competitive Europe

N°	Date:	Languages	Title:
24.	11.07	E	Opinion on 2nd Draft for the establishment of ecological criteria for the award of a Community Eco-label to tourist accommodation
25.	20.07	E	Opinion on the possible vision for how the eco-label can develop in a new IPP Framework
26.	30.07	E	Position Paper on the Consultation document: "Towards a reinforced culture of consultation and dialogue - Proposal for general principles and minimum standards for consultation of interested parties by the Commission" - COM(2002) 277 final
27.	July 2002	E	Vote in plenary - Directive on amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste
28.	22.08	E	Conciliation - Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
29.	August 2002	E	Position Paper and response to the amendments proposed by Mr. Manders
30.	28.08	E	Response to the first commission consultation of the Social Partners on the portability of supplementary pension rights
31.	29.08	E	Comments on the draft Eco-Label criteria for refrigerators dated July 2002
32.	29.08	E	Comments on the draft criteria for washing machines dated July 2002
33.	02.09	E-F-D-I	Position concerning the Proposal for a Directive of the recognition of professional qualifications - COM(2002) 119 final - 2002/0061 (COD)
34.	03.09	E-D	Position on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Official Feed and Food Controls SANCO/1420/2002
35.	09.09	E	Position Paper on the Preliminary Draft Commission Recommendation amending Recommendation 96/280/EC concerning the definition of small and medium-sized enterprises (dd.25/6/2002) - Second consultation
36.	13.09	E	Opinion on 6th August 2002 draft Commission Decision establishing revised ecological criteria for the award of Community Eco-Label to laundry detergents and amending Decision 1999/476/EC
37.	20.09	E	Comments on the fourth draft criteria dated 13 September 2002 for the award of the community eco-label to tourist accommodation
38.	23.09	F	Directive concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services
39.	30.09	E	Position Paper on the Communication from the Commission: "Follow-up Communication to the Green Paper on EU Consumer Protection" COM(2002) 289 final
40.	10.10	E-F	UEAPME reply to the European Commission consultation on the reform of the EURES legal base
41.	21.10	E-F	Position on the communication from the Commission concerning "The European social dialogue, a force for innovation and change" COM(2002) 341 final
42.	28.10	E	UEAPME reply to the questions asked after the first meeting of the AHWG in charge of defining the EU Eco-label criteria for furniture
43.	06.11	E-F	Position Paper on the Commission's Communication on a framework for the promotion of employee financial participation
44.	13.11	E	Reaction to the 1st AHWG meeting on the revision of the DID list
45.	28.11	E	Reaction on the Commission decision establishing ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to tourist accommodation - Draft of 21st November 2002
46.	29.11	E	Proposal to modify the evaluation criteria of the primary and secondary washing effects concerning the performance test of laundry detergents - in the framework of the revision of the European Eco-Label criteria for laundry detergents
47.	29.11	E	Informal reaction to the Informal draft non-paper on possible future points of revision of the EU Eco-label (October 2002 version)
48.	29.11	E-F	Position on the Communication of the Commission "Taking stock of 5 years of the European Strategy for Employment"
49.	10.12	E-F	Response to the stage consultation of the social partners on the protection of workers' personal data
50.	13.12	E	Position Paper on the Commission Draft Proposal for a Directive on establishing a Framework for Eco-design of End Use Equipment
51.	December 2002	E	Position on the proposal for a Directive on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage before the 1st reading in the European Parliament
52.	December 2002	E	Proposed amendments for 1st reading in the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament on environmental liability

Key:

E = English	D = German
F = French	I = Italian

List of consultative committees where UEAPME is represented at European level (February 2003):

- Round Table of Banks and SMEs (DG ENTR)
- Measuring Instruments Committee (DG ENTR)
- Enterprise Policy Group, EPG (DG ENTR)
- Committee on "e-commerce" (DG ENTR)
- BEST Project on Environmental Management Systems in SMEs (DG ENTR)
- EU Multistakeholder Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility
- Advisory Committee for the Equal Opportunities between Women and Men (DG EMPL)
- Social Dialogue Committee (DG EMPL)
- Working group "Labour Market" (DG EMPL)
- Working group "Macro-economics" (DG EMPL)
- Working group "Education and Training" (DG EMPL)
- Pensions Forum (DG EMPL)
- European Monitoring Centre on Change EMCC (DUBLIN FOUNDATION)
- Payment System Groups (DG MARKT)
- SLIM "Simpler Legislation in the Internal Market" (DG MARKT)
- EFRAG (DG MARKT)
- LEONARDO II Programme Committee (DG EAC)
- ACVT Advisory Committee on Vocational Training (DG EAC)
- Brugge Coordination Group (DG EAC)
- Consultative Committee of Social Parties on Structural Funds (DG REGIO)
- Committee on Rural Development (DG AGRI)
- Permanent Working Group on Women in Rural Areas (DG AGRI)
- European Research Advisory Board EURAB (DG Research)
- High-Level Advisory Committee on SMEs (DG Research)
- EMAS Consultative Committee (DG ENV)
- European Union Eco-Labeling Board and Eco-Label Consultative Forum (DG ENV)
- Several Ad Hoc Working Groups establishing Eco-Label Criteria for different product groups (DG ENV)
- Consultative Committee for Waste (DG ENV)
- Macroeconomic Dialogue (ECOFIN)
- Euro Cash User Group (DG ECOFIN and European Central Bank)
- Asia - Invest Advisory Committee (DG TRADE)
- Panel of Experts for the Millennium Round of the WTO (DG TRADE)
- AL-INVEST Advisory Committee (EuropeAid)
- TABD (Trans Atlantic Business Dialogue)
- Health and Food Safety Advisory Committee on Foodstuffs (DG SANCO)
- EUROSTAT - Statistical information group

UEAPME member organisations

(DATE: 8/05/2003)

FULL MEMBERS

A U S T R I A

Wirtschaftskammer Österreich - Sektion Gewerbe

Wiedner Hauptstr. 63
Postfach 350, A-1045 Wien
Tel:+43.1.50.105.0
Fax:+43.1.50.20.62.75
E-mail: reinhold.mitterlehner@wko.at

President: Dr. Christoph LEITL
Secretary General: Mag. Christian DOMANY
Deputy Secretary General: Dr. Reinhold MITTERLEHNER

B E L G I U M

Comité National Belge des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises CNBPME

Rue de Spa 8, B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel:+32.2.238.05.31
Fax:+32.2.238.07.94
E-mail: hilde.grisar@kmonet.org

President: Kris PEETERS
Secretary General: Luc HENDRICKX

CNBPME consists of the following organisations:

Unie van Zelfstandige Ondernemers UNIZO

Rue de Spa 8, B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel:+32.2.238.05.31
Fax:+32.2.238.07.94
E-mail: hilde.grisar@kmonet.org

President: Rik JAEKEN
Managing Director: Kris PEETERS

Syndicat des Indépendants et des PME SDI

Avenue Albert I, 183, B-1332 Genvai
Tel: +32.2.652.26.92
Fax: +32.2.652.37.26
E-mail: sdi@skynet.be

President: Daniel CAUWEL
European Responsible: Thierry GUNS

KAN

Hoogpoort 57, B-9000 Gent
Tel: +32.9.223.16.17
Fax: +32.9.233.25.69
E-mail: paul.verdonck@unizowaasland.be

President: Paul VERDONCK

Union des Classes Moyennes UCM

Bd d'Avroy 42, B-4000 Liège
Tel: +32.4.221.65.50
Fax: +32.4.221.65.55
E-mail: pierre.colin@liege.ucm.be

Secretary General: Pierre COLIN

Confédération Construction

Rue Lombard 34-42, B-1000 Bruxelles
Tél: 02.545.56.00
Fax: 02.545.59.00
E-mail: veronique.vanderbruggen@confederationconstruction.be

Spokesperson: Johan BERGHMANS

D E N M A R K**Håndværksrådet**

Islands Brygge 26, DK-2300 København S

Tel: +45.33.93.20.00

Fax: +45.33.32.01.74

E-mail: vesterdorf@hvr.dk

<http://www.hvr.dk>

President: Poul ULSØE

Director: Lars Jørgen NIELSEN

Head of Unit for European Affairs: Peter Vesterdorf

F I N L A N D**SY - The Federation of Finnish Enterprises**

Kaisaniemenkatu 13 A, P.O. Box 999

FIN-00101 Helsinki

Tel: +358.9.22.92.21

Fax: +358.9.229.229.99

E-mail (general): toimisto@suomen.yrittajat.fi

E-mail: jussi.jarventaus@suomen.yrittajat.fi

<http://www.yrittajat.fi>

President: Eero LEHTI

Managing Director: Jussi JÄRVENTAUS

Head of European Affairs: Risto SUOMINEN

F R A N C E**Assemblée Permanente des Chambres de Métiers APCM**

12, Av. Marceau, F-75008 Paris

Tel: +33.1.44.43.10.00

Fax: +33.1.47.20.34.48

E-mail: info@apcm.fr

President: Alain GRISET

General Director.: François MOUTOT

Union Professionnelle de l'Artisanat UPA

79, Av. de Villiers, F-75017 Paris

Tel: +33.1.47.63.31.31

Fax: +33.1.47.63.31.10

E-mail: UPA@wanadoo.fr

President: Robert BUGUET

Secretary General: Pierre BURBAN

Confédération Générale des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises CGPME

10, Terrasse Bellini, F-92806 Puteaux- Cédex

Tel: +33.1.47.62.73.73

Fax: +33.1.47.73.08.86

E-mail: bbrisson@cgpme.org

President: Jean-François ROUBAUD

Secretary General: Anne CUILLE

G E R M A N Y**Zentralverband des Deutschen Handwerks and Bundesvereinigung der Fachverbände des Deutschen Handwerks/ ZDH und BFD**

Postfach 11 04 72, D-10834 Berlin

Tel: +49.30.206.190

Fax: +49.30.206.19.460

E-mail: schleyer@zdh.de

<http://www.zdh.de>

President: Dieter PHILIPP

Secretary General: Hanns-Eberhard SCHLEYER

**Bundesverband der Selbständigen/ Deutscher
Gewerblicher e.V. BDS/DGV e.V.**

Platz vor dem Neuen Tor 4, D-10115 Berlin
Tel:+49.30.28.04.91.0
Fax:+49.30.28.04.91.11
E-mail: bds-dgv@t-online.de
rml@bds-dgv.de
<http://www.bds-dgv.de>

President: Rolf KURZ
Bundesgeschäftsführer: Ralf-Michael LÖTTGEN

G R E E C E

**Confédération Hellénique des Petits et
Moyens Entrepreneurs, Artisans et Commerçants
GR. G.S.E.V.E.E.**

Rue Kapodistriou 24, GR-106 82 Athens
Tel:+30.210.3816.600 ou 3828.590
Fax:+30.210.382.07.35
E-mail: gsevee@gsevee.gr
E-mail: info@gsevee.gr
<http://www.gsevee.gr>

President: Dimitris FETSIS
Secretary General: Dimitris LENTZOS

I R E L A N D

**Irish Small and Medium Enterprises
Association ISME**

17 Kildare Street, IRL-Dublin 2
Tel:+353.1.662.27.55
Fax:+353.1.661.21.57
E-mail: rberney@tinet.ie
E-mail: mark@isme.ie

Chairman: Noel O'SULLIVAN
Chief Executive: Mark FIELDING

Small Firms Association SFA

Confederation House 84/86 Lower Baggot St.
IRL-Dublin 2
Tel:+353.1.660.10.11
Fax:+353.1.660.17.17
E-mail: patrick.delaney@ibec.ie

President: Mrs. Lorraine SWEENEY
Director: Pat DELANEY

I T A L Y

**Confederazione Generale Italiana
dell'Artigianato CONFARTIGIANATO**

Via S. Giovanni in Laterano 152
I-00184 Roma
Tel:+39.06.70.37.41
Fax:+39.06.70.45.21.88
E-mail: s.murador@mail.confartigianato.it
E-mail: presidenza@confartig.it

President: Luciano PETRACCHI
Secretary General: Guido BOLAFFI

**Confederazione Italiana della
Piccola e Media Industria CONFAPI**

Via della Colonna Antonina 52
I - 00186 Roma
Tel:+39.06.690.151
Fax:+39.06.679.14.88
E-mail: mail@confapi.org
<http://www.confapi.org>

President: Roberto Maria RADICE
General Director: Sandro NACCARELLI

Confederazione Nazionale dell'Artigianato e delle Piccole e Medie Imprese CNA

Via G.A. Guattani, 13
I - 00161 Roma
Tel: +39.06.441.88.244
Fax: +39.06.442.49.518
E-mail: europa@cna.it

President: Ivan MALAVASI
Secretary General: Gian Carlo SANGALLI

Confederazione Italiana Esercenti Attività Commerciali Turistiche e dei Servizi CONFESERCENTI

Via Nazionale, 60
I - 00184 Roma
Tel: +39.06.47.251
Fax: +39.06.47.46.886
E-mail: confes@confesercenti.it
<http://www.confesercenti.it>

President: Marco VENTURI
Secretary General: Gaetano ORRICO

L U X E M B O U R G

Chambre des Métiers du Grand Duché de Luxembourg

Circuit de la Foire Internationale 2
L-1016 Luxembourg
Tel: +352.42.67.67-1
Fax: +352.42.67.87
E-mail: direction@chambre-des-metiers.lu

President: Paul RECKINGER
Director: Paul ENSCH

Fédération des Artisans

Circuit de la Foire Internationale 2
L-1016 Luxembourg
Tel: +352.42.45.11-1
Fax: +352.42.45.25
E-mail: direction@federation-des-artisans.lu

President: Norbert GEISEN
Director: Romain SCHMIT

N E T H E R L A N D S

Koninklijke Vereniging MKB-Nederland

Brassersplein 1, Postbus 5096
NL-2600 GB Delft
Tel: +31.152.19.12.12
Fax: +31.152.19.14.14
E-mail: popta@mkb.nl

President: Hans de BOER
Director: W.L. van der MAAS
Responsible European Affairs: Benne van POPTA

P O R T U G A L

Associação Industrial Portuguesa AIP

Praça das Industrias
P-1399 Lisboa Codex
Tel: +351.21.360.10.00
Fax: +351.21.342.94.35
E-mail (M.Secca): icabral@entrepосто-sgps.pt
E-mail: atoregao@aip.pt

President: Jorge ROCHA DE MATOS
Secretary General: Rui FERREIRA LEITE
Vice-president: Mario SECCA

S P A I N

**Confederación Española de la Pequeña
y Mediana Empresa CEPYME**

Diego de León 50, 8º
E-28006 Madrid
Tel:+34.91.411.61.61
Fax:+34.91.564.52.69
E-mail: secretaria@cepyme.es

President: D. Jesus BARCENAS LOPEZ
Secretary General: Elias APARICIO BRAVO

S W E D E N

**Företagarna
Företagarnas Riksorganisation**

S-10667 Stockholm
Tel:+46.8.406.17.00
Fax:+46.8.411.77.01
E-mail: t.sigfridson@fr.se

President: Thomas SIGFRIDSON
Managing Director: Mrs. Gunvor ENGSTRÖM

U N I T E D K I N G D O M

Forum of Private Business FPB

Ruskin Chambers, Drury Lane
GB-Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6HA
Tel:+44.1565.63.44.67-89
Fax:+44.1565.65.00.59
E-mail: fpbltd@fpb.co.uk

Chief Executive: Nick GOULDING
Executive Chairman: Stan MENDHAM OBE

M E R G E R G R O U P

I T A L Y

**Confederazione Autonoma Sindacati Artigiani
CASA**

Via Flaminio Ponzio, 2
I – 00153 Roma
Tel: +39.06.57.58.081
Fax: +39.06.57.55.036
E-mail: casartigiani@tiscalinet.it

President: Giacomo BASSO
General Secretary: Paolo MELFA

**Petita i Mitjana Empresa de Catalunya
PIMEC SEFES**

Viladomat, 174
E – 08015 Barcelona
Tel: +34.93.49.64.500
Fax: +34.93.49.64.501
E-mail: europa@pimecsefes.com
<http://www.sefes.es>

European responsible: Daniel FURLAN

U N I T E D K I N G D O M

**Union of Independent Companies
UIC**

42-44 Upper Churnside
The Beeches
CIRENCESTER
Glos
GL7 1AP - UK
Tel: +44.207.630.9796
Fax: +44.207.821.9303
E-mail: sean.mayo@btinternet.com

President: William G. POETON CBE
General Secretary: Colin GIBSON
(Tel/Fax +44.1798.873.478)

S P A I N

**Petita i Mitjana Empresa de Mallorca,
Balears PIMEB**

ParcBIT nau n° 3
cami de Ca'n Manel s/n
E - 07120 Son Espanyol (Palma)
Tel: +34.971.43.51.51
Fax: +34.971.43.51.52
E-mail: pimeb@pimeb.net
<http://www.pimeb.net>

President: Antonio MARQUÉS CAMPS
General Secretary: Juan José Díez MOYA

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ALBANIA

KOP-CONFINCOM

KOP Address:

Council of Employers' Organisations- KOP
Rr. Kavajes, Sun Tower Business Center, Nr. 29
P.O. Box 8187 Tirana - Albania

President: Bashkim SALA

CONFINCOM Address:

Rr. Shyqyri Berxolli, Pall. 18/2 Sh.3 Ap.33
P.O. Box 8187 Tirana - Albania
Tel/fax: +355.4.230.673
Tel/fax (privé) + 355.4.228.323
E-mail: kop-confincom@icc-al.org
E-mail: bsala@icc-al.org

BULGARIA

Nationale Handwerkskammer - Bulgarien

134 Slivnitya Blv
BG - 1303 Sofia
Tel:+359.2.931 78 80/2 931 78 81
Tel/Fax:+359.2.931.78.82
E-mail: nzk@infotel.bg
E-mail: (maria_t_t@abv.bg)
<http://www.bzk.bg>

President: Rangel TSCHOLAKOV
Contact: Maria TODOROVA

CROATIA :

Hrvatska Obrtnicka Komora HOK

Ilica 49/II
HR-10000 Zagreb
Tel:+385.1.48.06.666
Fax:+385.1.48.46.610
E-mail: ured.predsjednika@hok.hr

President: Stjepan SAFRAN
General Secretary: dr. Petar SINDICIC

C Y P R U S

Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry CCCI

38, Grivas Digeni Ave. & 3 Deligiorgi Str.
P.O. Box 21455
1509-Nicosia - CYPRUS
Tel:+357.2.88.98.00
Fax:+357.2.66.90.48
E-mail: chamber@ccci.org.cy
<http://www.ccci.org.cy>

Secretary General: Panayotis I. LOIZIDES

C Z E C H R E P U B L I C**Association of Small and Medium sized Enterprises and Crafts of Czech Republic AMSP CR**

Anglická , 1
 CZ - 120 00 Praha 2
 Tel/Fax: +420.2.222.24.15.53
 E-mail: amsp@volny.cz
 E-mail: dobes@dofra.cz
<http://www.amspace.cz>

President: Břetislav OSTADÁL
Executive Vice-President: Karel DOBES

Sdružení Podnikatelů České Republiky SPCR

Skrétova 6/44
 CZ-120 59 Praha 2
 Tel: +420.2.242.305.80
 Fax: +420.2.242.104.34
 E-mail: spcr1989@volny.cz
<http://www.sp-cr.cz>

Chairman: Bedřich DANDA
Adviser for External relations: Václav ZEMÁNEK

Hospodářská komora České republiky**Economic Chamber of the Czech Republic ECCR**

Freyova 27
 CZ - 190 00 Praha 9
 Tel: +420.2.240.96.204 (President)
 Tel: +420.2.240.96.107 (Secretary General)
 Fax: +420.2.240.96.221
 E-mail: holec@komora.cz
 E-mail: voles@komora.cz
<http://www.komora.cz>

President: Ph.D. Jaromír DRABEK
Secretary General: Ivan VOLES

E S T O N I A**Estonian Association of Small and Medium Sized Enterprise EVEA**

Liivalaia 9
 EE-10118 Tallin
 Tel:+37.2.641.0920
 Fax:+37.2.641.0916
 E-mail: sme@evea.ee
<http://www.evea.ee>

President: Mr. Riivo SINIJÄRV
Managing Director: Ms. Riina DANILSON

H U N G A R Y**Ipartestületek Országos Szövetsége IPOSZ**

Kálmán I. U.20
 H-1054 Budapest
 Tel: +36.1.269.29.40
 Fax: +36.1.269.29.57
 E-mail: gsolti@elender.hu

President: György SZÜCS

Director: Gabor SOLTI

L I E C H T E N S T E I N**Gewerbe- und Wirtschaftskammer des Fürstentum Liechtenstein GWK**

Zollstrasse 23
 FL-9494 Schaan
 Tel: +423.237.77.88
 Fax: +423.237.77.89
 E-mail: ogerstgrasser@gwk.li
 E-mail general informations: gwk@gwk.li

President : Arnold MATT

General Manager : Oliver GERSTGRASSER

President address:

Purtscher 665
 FL-9493 Mauren
 Tel: +423.377.19.40
 Fax: +423.377.19.45
 E-mail: mdm@matt-druck.li

L I T H U A N I A**Lithuanian Entrepreneurs Employers****Confederation LVDK**

Rotundo str.5
 LT-2600 Vilnius
 Tel: +370.2.314.345 or 2.629.729
 Fax: +370.2.220 448/262.352
 E-mail: info@lvdk.w3.lt
<http://lvdk.w3.lt>

President: Mr Viktor USPASKICH

Secretary General: Mr Ceslovas KOVERA

M A L T A**Institute for the Promotion of Small Enterprise IPSE**

Small Enterprise Centre
 P.O. Box 170
 Marsa, Malta
 Tel: +356.2123.3838
 Fax: +356.2123.4045
 E-mail: rcassar@ipse.org.mt

Marketing Manager: Ray CASSAR

P O L A N D**Związek Rzemioska Polskiego ZRP**

Ul. Miodowa 14
 PL-00-246 Warschau
 P.O. Box 135
 PL – 00-950 Warschau
 Tel: +48.22.831.61.61 / 831.16.68
 Fax: +48.22.831.96.10 / 635.79.81
 E-mail: zrp@zrp.pl
<http://www.zrp.pl>

President: Jerzy BARTNIK
Secretary General: Wiesław SINKIEWICZ

R O M A N I A
**Consiliul National al Intreprinderilor Private Mici
 si Mijlocii din Romania - BCP
 CNIPMMR-BCP**

Str. Mendellev, nr. 36-38, etaj 9, sector 1
 RO-70169 Bucuresti
 Tel: +40.21.312.68.93
 Fax: +40.21.312.66.08
 E-mail: office@cnipmmr.ro
<http://www.cnipmmr.ro>

President: Ovidiu NICOLESCU
General Director: Alessandro MINTAS

S A N M A R I N O
**Unione Nazionale Artigiani della Repubblica di
 San Marino UNAS**

Piazzale Giangi, 2
 RSM-Citta Rep. San Marino
 Tel: +378.99.21.48
 Fax: +378.99.28.37
 E-mail: unas@omniway.sm

President: Gian Franco TRENZI
Secretary: Alberto CHEZZI
Vice-President: Giorgio BATTISTINI

S L O V A K I A**Slovenský Zivnostenský Zväz SZZ**

Racianska 71
 SK-831 02 Bratislava
 Tel: +421.2.49246234
 Fax: + 421.2.49246653
 E-mail: sekretariat@szz.sk
<http://www.szz.sk>

President: Anton BUBEN
Secretary: Ing. Viola KROMEROVÁ

SLOVENIA**Obrtna Zbornica Slovenije OZS**

Celovska 71
 SLO-61000 Ljubljana
 Tel:+386.1.58.30.501
 Fax:+386.1.505.92.70
 E-mail: janja.meglic@ozs.si
 E-mail: obrtna.zbornica@ozs.si

President: Miroslav KLUN
Secretary General: dr. Viljem PSENICNY

TURKEY**Türkiye Esnaf ve Sanatçılari
Konfederasyonu TESK**

Tunus Caddesi no:4, Bakanlıklar
 TR-06680 Ankara
 Tel:+90.312.418.32.69.70.10
 Fax:+90.312.425.88.97
 E-mail: disismd@tesk.org.tr

President: Dervis GÜNDAY
Secretary General: Naci SULKALAR

EUROPEAN SECTORAL ORGANISATIONS**European Federation of Accountants and
Auditors for SME's EFAA**

1, Rue Newton
 B-1000 Bruxelles
 Tel:+32.2.736.88.86
 Fax:+32.2.736.29.64
 E-mail: info@efaa.com
<http://www.efaa.com>

President: Klas-Erik HJORTH
Secretary General: Peter POULSEN

**European Metal Union / Union Européenne du
Métal EMU**

Postbus 2600, NL-3430 GA Nieuwegein
 Einsteinbaan 1, NL-3499 NJ Nieuwegein
 Tel:+31.3060.533.44
 Fax:+31.30605.31.15
 E-mail: keijer@metaalunie.nl
 E-mail: emu@metaalunie.nl

President: W. VAN GAARDINGEN
Director: Harm Jan KEIJER

**European Federation of
Chimney-Sweeps ESCHFÖ**

Westerwaldstr. 6
D-53757 Sankt Augustin
Tel: +49.2241.34.07.0
Fax: +49.2241.34.07.10
E-mail: ziv-steinebach@schornsteinfeger.de

President: Eugen STEICHELE
Secretary General: R.A. Bertold STEINEBACH

**International Association of Building Service
Contractors FIDEN**

c/o Westermeyr & Lerg
Richard-Wagner-Straße 19
D-80333 München
Tel: +49.89.52.30.40.30
Fax: +49.89.52.30.40.50
E-mail: westermeyr@fiden.org

President: Juan-Bosco ARCONADA-LASTRAS
Secretary General: Laurent WESTERMEYR

**Fédération Internationale du Métiers
de Couvreur IFD**

Fritz-Reuter Str. 1
D-50968 Köln
Tel: +49.221.398.038.0
Fax: +49.221.398.038.99
E-mail: zvdh@dachdecker.de

President: Jan WEIERS
Secretary General: Detlef STAUCH

**Génie Climatique International -
Ass. Suisse des Maîtres Ferblantiers et
Appareilleurs GCI-UICP**

Rue Jacques de Lalaing 4
B-1040 Bruxelles
Tél: +32.2.285.07.27
Fax: +32.2.230.78.61
E-mail: jacques.demeester@skynet.be

President: Jacques DE MEESTER
Executive Secretary: Oliver LOEBEL

European Builders Confederation EBC

Rue de Spa 8
B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel: +32.2.514.23.23
Fax: +32.2.514.00.15
E-mail: secretariat@eubuilders.org

President: José Antonio CALVO DELGADO
Secretary General: Patrizia DI MAURO

**Comité Européen des Equipements Techniques
du Bâtiment CEETB**

Rue Jacques de Lalaing 4
B-1040 Bruxelles
Tel: +32.2.285.07.27
Fax: +32.2.230.78.61
E-mail: gpie@wanadoo.fr

President: Guy POUILLAIN
Secretary General: Oliver LOEBEL

European Caravan Federation ECF

Am Holzweg 26
 D-65830 Kriftel bei Frankfurt
 Tel: +49.6192-9712-00
 Fax: +49.6192-9712-23
 E-mail: info@e-c-f.com
<http://www.e-c-f.com>

President: Guido CARISSIMO
Secretary General: Hans-Karl STERNBERG

European Federation of Funeral Services EFFS

Obere Donaustrasse, 53
 A-1020 Vienna
 Tel: +43.1.717.37-6236
 Fax: +43.1.710.58.96
 E-mail: office@effs.at

President: Wolfgang ZOCHER
General Secretary: Peter SKYBA

Confédération Européenne des Professionelles de l'Esthétique Cosmetique CEPEC

P.O. Box 1274
 NL - 3600 BG Maarssen
 Tel: +31.346.568.137
 Fax: +31.346.563.18496
 E-mail: info@anbos.nl
cepec.france@fngae.fr

President: Tineke PRONK
General Secretary: Magda MAGRI NAUDI

European Standard Travel Agent ESTAR

Hermannngasse 33
 A-1070 Vienna
 Tel: +43.1.522.80.45
 Fax: +43.1.522.80.48
 E-mail: confittravel@reiseweb.at

President: Joseph REITINGER-LASKA

Confederazione delle associazioni dei gelatieri artigianali dell'Unione europea ARTGLACE

Via del Parco 3
 I - 32013 Longarone (BL)
 Tel: +39.0437.577577
 Fax: +39.0437.770340
 E-mail: fiera@longaronefiere.it
<http://www.artglace.org>

President: Fausto BORTOLOT
General Secretary: Idolino BERTACCO

Association Internationale des Réparateurs en Carrosserie A.I.R.C.

Warmonderweg 1-5
 NL - 2171 AH Sassenheim
 Tel: +31.252.565.222
 Fax: +31.252.265.255
 E-mail: AIRC@focwa.org

President: Joh. BLIJWEERT
General Secretary: Jan KOOLEN

A.I.R.C.

President Address:
Stroobantstraat 50
B - 1140 Brussels
Tel: +32.2.247.53.02
Fax: +32.2.247.53.99

**Confédération Européenne des organisations
nationales de la Boulangerie et de la Pâtisserie
CEBP**

Bd. Louis Mettewie 83/42
B - 1080 Bruxelles
Tel: +32.2.469.20.00
Fax: +32.2.469.21.40
E-mail: admin@bbci-bpcg.be

President: Jacques van de VALL
General Secretary: Dr. Eberhard GROEBEL

**Union Internationale des
Entrepreneurs de Peinture UNIEP
Koninklijke Vereniging FOSAG**

Postbus 651
NL - 2800 AR Gouda
Tel: +31.18.25.71.444
Fax: +31.18.25.72.083
E-mail: vanderweide@fosag.nl / president@uniep.com
E-mail: bruxelles@uniep.org
<http://www.uniep.com>

President: Gérard S.J. VAN DER WEIDE
Responsible for Secretariat: Raphaël ANSPACH

GROUP OF EUROPEAN CRAFT TRADES IN THE HEALTH-CARE SECTOR
**FEPPD - Eurodesk
International and European Federation of
European Dental Laboratory Owners**

29, rue des Deux Eglises, Bte 3
B-1000 Bruxelles
Tel: +32.2.238.05.88
Fax: +32.2.238.05.84
E-mail: feppd@kmonet.org
E-mail: smithy@btinternet.com
<http://www.feppd.org>

President: David SMITH
General Secretary: Michel REY
Administrative Secretary: Nico VANSANTEN

**International Association of Orthotists
and Prosthetists INTERBOR**

Reinoldistr. 7-9
D - 44135 Dortmund
Tel: +49.231.55.70.50.0
Fax: +49.231.55.70.50.40
E-mail: info@ot-forum.de
E-mail President: fedop@infonegocio.com

President: M. CANAMARES-LAGE
Secretary General: Franz SCHÜTTE

OTHER ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

EUROPE

Jeunes Entrepreneurs de l'Union Européenne**JEUNE**

4, Rue Jacques de Lalaing, B-1040 Bruxelles

Tel: +32.2.230.75.99

Fax: +32.2.230.78.61

E-mail: dworak@dworak.de

President: Michael DWORAK

Responsible for Secretariat: Ludger FISCHER

**Female Europeans of
Medium and Small Enterprises FEM**

4, Rue Jacques de Lalaing

B-1040 Bruxelles

Tel: +32.2.285.07.14

Fax: +32.2.230.78.61

E-mail: empresaria@bitmailer.net

President: Miriam ARNAU

Responsible for Secretariat: Doris RABETGE

GERMANY:

**SIGNAL IDUNA Gruppe Unternehmens-
verbindungen Handwerk, Handel und Gewerbe**

Joseph-Scherer Str. 3

D-44193 Dortmund

Tel: +49.231.135.2019

Fax: +49.231.135.4407

E-mail: marianne.schellenberg@signal.de

Director: Herrn Joachim KRUMM

FRANCE:

Banque Fédérale des Banques Populaires

Le Ponant de Paris, 5, Rue Leblanc

F-75511 Paris Cedex 15

Tel: +33.1.40.39.60.00

Fax: +33.1.40.39.60.01

E-mail: rene.chalier@csbp.banquepopulaire.fr

External Relations: Elodie DEGRYSE

Representative for European Affairs: Patrick CARBONNEL

ITALY

Artigiancassa

Via Crescenzo dal Monte, 25

I-00100 Roma

Tel: +39.06.584.51

Fax: +39.06.589.96.72

E-mail: gianfranco.verzaro@artigiancassa.it

President: Antonio LAFORGIA

General Director: Gian-Franco VERZARO

Fedart Fidi

Via S. Giovanni in Laterano, 152,

I-00184 Roma

President:

Roberto Villa - tel: +39.06.770.37.425,

- fax: +39.06.772.03.185

- e-mail: info@fedartfidi.it

Coordinator:

Tino Vaccari - tel: +39.06.703.74.235

Franco Cruciani - tel: +39.06.703.74.235

Fincredit

Via della Colonna Antonina, 52I-00186 Roma

Tel:+39.06.690.15.312

Fax:+39.06.679.14.88

E-mail: fincredit@confapi.it

President: Luciano PRAMPOLINI

Secretary General: Andrea MUTI

UNITED KINGDOM :

The Association of

Chartered Certified Accountants ACCA

29 Lincoln's Inn Fields

London WC2A 3EE, UK

Tel: +44.207.396.59.75

Fax: +44.207.396.57.71

E-mail: jonsonv@accaglobal.com

<http://www.accaglobal.com>

Chief Executive: Mrs Anthea L. ROSE

Head of ACCA Small Business: Prof. Robin JARVIS

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION de l'UEAPME

UEAPME'S ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

UEAPME-VERWALTUNGSRAT

CONSIGLIO D'AMMINISTRAZIONE dell'UEAPME

(PÉRIODE/PERIOD/ZEITRAUM/PERIODO: 2003-2004)

Président/President/Präsident/Presidente:

M. Paul Reckinger Président de la Chambre des Métiers du Grand Duché de Luxembourg,
2, Circuit de la Foire Internationale, L - 1016 Luxembourg

Vice-Présidents/Vizepräsidenten/Vice-Presidents/Vicepresidenti:

M. Armand Arianer, Vice-Président de l'UPA,
79, Avenue de Villiers, F - 75017 Paris

Mr. Hans de Boer, President MKB-Nederland,
Brassersplein 1, NL - 2600 GB Delft

Dott. Francesco Giacomini Direttore delle Politiche Comunitarie e Nuova Europa Confartigianato
Via S. Giovanni in Laterano 152, I - 00184 Roma

M. Alain Griset, Président de l'APCM
12, Avenue Marceau, F - 75008 Paris

Mr. Eero Lehti, President SY (The Federation of Finnish Enterprises)
Kaisaniemenkatu 13 A, P.O. Box 999, FIN - 00101 Helsinki

Dott. Franco Malinconci, Responsabile del Dipartimento Politiche Comunitarie di Confesercenti
Via Nazionale 60, I - 00184 Roma

M. Kris Peeters, Président CNB-PME
Rue de Spa 8, B - 1000 Bruxelles

Hr. Dieter Philipp Präsident ZDH,
Postfach 11 04 72, D - 10834 Berlin

M. Mario Secca, Vice-Président Associação Portuguesa,
Praça das Industrias, P - 1399 Lisboa Codex

Hr. Georg Toifl, Obmann der Bundessparte Gewerbe und Handwerk in der WKÖ
Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, A - 1045 Wien

Trésorier/Treasurer/Schatzmeister/Tesoriere

Hr. Dieter Philipp Präsident ZDH,
Postfach 11 04 72, D - 10834 Berlin

Secrétaire Général/Secretary General/Generalsekretär/Segretario Generale:

M. Hans-Werner Müller, 4, Rue Jacques de Lalaing
B - 1040 Bruxelles

Membres Effectifs/Full Members/Vollmitglieder/Membri Effettivi

M. Olivier Chapelle, Vice-Président chargé de l'Economie CGPME
10, Terrasse Bellini, F- 92806 Puteaux Cedex

M. François Moutot Directeur Général de l'APCM
12, Avenue Marceau, F- 75008 Paris

Mr. Georges Motosos, Président CGPMEAC,
24, Rue Kapodistriou, GR- 10682 Athènes

Mr. Poul Ulsøe, Président Håndværksrådet,
Islands Brygge 26, DK- 2300 Kopenhagen S

Dott. Riccardo Montesi, Presidente Comitato Relazioni Internazionali Confapi
Via della Colonna Antonina 52, I- 00186 Roma

Dott.ssa Anna Maria Ferraboli, Vicepresidente CNA,
c/o CNA, Via G.A. Guattani, 13, I - 00161 Roma

M. Norbert Geisen, Président de la Fédération des Artisans,
2, Circuit de la Foire Internationale, L- 1016 Luxembourg

M. Elias Aparicio Bravo, Secrétaire Général CEPYME,
Diego de León 50, 8º, E- 28006 Madrid

Mme Alexandra Toregão, Technique de Relations Extérieures et Coopération - AIP
Praça das Indústrias, P- 1304 Lisboa Codex

Mr. Nicholas Goulding, Chief Executive FPB,
Ruskin Chambers, Drury Lane, GB- Knutsford,
Cheshire WA 16 6 HA

Hr. Hanns-Eberhard Schleyer, Generalsekretär ZDH
Postfach 11 04 72, D- 10834 Berlin

Hr. Rolf Kurz, Präsident BDS/DGV e.V.,
Platz vor dem Neuen Tor 4, D- 10115 Berlin

Mr. Jussi Järventaus, Managing Director Federation of Finnish Enterprises
Kaisaniemenkatu 13 A, FIN- 00100 Helsinki

Mrs. Gunvor Engström, Managing Director Företagarnas Riksorganisation
Sergelgatan 1, S - 10667 Stockholm

Mr. Bill Brown, Representant ISME
Malstrom Ltd, 71-73 Capel Street EIRE Dublin 2

Mr. Pat Delaney, Director SFA
84/86 Lower Baggot St., IRL- Dublin 2

Hr. Dr. Reinhold Mitterlehner, Generalsekretär-Stellvertreter der WKÖ
Wiedner Hauptstrasse 63, A - 1045 Wien

Groupe Fusion / Merger Group/ Fusionsgruppe/ Gruppo Fusione

Mrs. Maria Angels Agulló, Représentant PIMEC-SEFES
Viladomat, 174, E - 08015 Barcelona

Membres Associés/Associate Members/Assoziierte Mitglieder/Membri Associati:

Pays en dehors de l'UE/Non EU-Countries/Nicht EU-Länder/Paesi non EU

Mr. Bashkim Sala, President KOP-CONFINCOM
Rr. Shyqyri Berxolli, Pall. 18/2 Sh.. Ap.33,
P.O. Box 8187 Tirana - Albania

Hr. Stjepan Safran, Präsident Handwerkskammer Kroatien
Ilica 49/II, HR - 10000 Zagreb

Hr. György Szücs, Präsident IPOSZ,
Kálmán I. u. 20, H- 1054 Budapest

Hr. Jerzy Bartnik, Präsident ZRP,
Ul. Miodawa, PL - 00-950 Warschau

M. Ovidiu Nicolescu, Président de CNIPMMR
Str. Mendeleev, nr. 36-38, etaj 9, sector 1,
RO - 70169 Bucuresti

Sig. Giorgio Battistini, Vice-Presidente UNAS
Piazziale Giangi, 2, Città Rep. San Marino

Hr. Miha Grah, Präsident OBRTNA ZBORNICA SLOVENIJE,
Celovska 71, SLO - 61000 Ljubljana

Mr. Naci Sulkalar, Secretary General TESK,
Tunus Caddesi No.4, Bakanliklar, TR- 06680 Ankara

Mr. Anton Buben, Präsident Slovensky Zivnostensky Zväz (SZZ)
Nevädzova 5, SK - 821 01 Bratislava

Mr. Vassilis G. Rologis, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
38 Drivas Digenis Ave. & 3 Deligiorgis Str.
P.O. Box 1455, Nicosia - CYPRUS

Mr. Karel Dobes,	Secretary for Foreign Affairs AMSP CR ANGLICKA 1, CZ - 12000 Praha 2
Mr. Vladislav Zemánek,	Adviser of SPCR for External Relations Skrétova 6/44, CZ - 120 59 Praha 2
Mr. Riina Altpere,	EVEA Liivalaia 9, EE 10118 Tallin
Mr. Algimantas Jasinskas,	LVDK A. Rotundo 5, LT - 2600 Vilnius
Hr. Oliver Gerstgrasser,	Geschäftsführer der GWK Zollstrasse 23, FL - 9494 Schaan
Mr. Ray Cassar,	Marketing Manager IPSE P.O. Box 170, Marsa, Malta
Mr. Rangel Tcholakov,	President Nationale Handwerkskammer - Bulgarien Bul. Slivnitya 134, BG-1303 Sofia

Organisations de branche européennes/European sectoral organisations/Europäische Fachverbände/Organizzazioni di categoria europea

Mrs. Patrizia Di Mauro,	Secretary General EBC Rue de Spa 8, B - 1000 Brussels
Mr. Peter Poulsen,	Secretary General EFAA Rue Newton 1, B - 1000 Brussels
Mr. H.J. Keijer,	Secretary General EMU, Postbus 2600, NL - 3430 Nieuwegein
Hr. Bertold Steinebach,	Generalsekretär ESCHFÖ Westerwaldstr.6, D - 53757 St. Augustin
Hr. Johannes Bungart,	Generalsekretär FIDEN Dottendorfer Str.86, D - 53129 Bonn

- Mr. Klaus Jobke, Generalsekretär IFD
Fritz-Reuter-Str. 1, D - 50968 Köln
-
- M. Jacques de Meester, Président CGI-UICP
Rue Antoine Court 13-17, B - 1080 Bruxelles
-
- M. Guy Poullain, Président CEETB
Rue Hamelin 5, F - 75116 Paris
-
- Mme Elsa Forte, CEPEC
Via A. Saffi 23, I -10123 Torino
-
- Hr. Hans-Karl Sternberg Generalsekretär European Caravan Federation
c/o Verband Deutscher Wohnwagen- und
Wohnmobil-Hersteller e.V.
Am Holzweg 26, D - 65830 Kriffel bei Frankfurt
-
- Hr Peter Skyba, Geschäftsführender Direktor EFFS
Obere Donaustrasse 53, A - 1020 Wien
-
- Hr Joseph Reitinger-Laska, Präsident ESTAR
Hermangasse 33, A - 1070 Wien
-
- Dott. Idolino Bertacco, Segretario Generale ARTGLACE
Via del Parco 3, I - 32013 Longarone (BL)
-
- Mr. Jan Koolen, General Secretary A.I.R.C.
Warmonderweg 1-5, NL - 2171 AH Sassenheim
-
- M. Jacques van de Vall, Président CEBP
Bd. Louis Mettewie 83/42, B - 1080 Bruxelles
-
- Mr. G.S.J. van der Weide, President UNIEP
c/o FOSAG
Hanzeweg 17, Postbus 651, NL - 2800 AR Gouda

Organisations européennes dans le secteur santé/European craft/trades in the health-care sector/Europäische Gesundheitshandwerke/Organizzazioni europee nel settore sanità

Dott. Giovanni Cristoforetti, Reppresentante FEPPD
Via Padini 7, I - 10138 Torino

Hr. Wilfried Knoche, Vizepräsident INTERBOR
Postfach 100651, D - 44006 Dortmund

Autres membres associés européens/Other European associate bodies/Sonstige assoziierte Mitglieder/Altri membri associati europei

Hr. Michael Dworak, Präsident JEUNE
Lörickstrasse 12, D - 41464 Neuss

Sra. Miriam Arnau, Presidente FEM
Fortuny 3 - 1º Izda, E - 28010 Madrid

Assurances et banques/Insurance companies and banks/Versicherungen und Banken/Assicurazioni e banche

Hr. Joachim Krumm, Direktor SIGNAL IDUNA Gruppe,
Unternehmensverbindungen Handwerk, Handel und Gewerbe
Joseph-Scherer-Str. 3, D - 44139 Dortmund

M. René Bouteiller, Directeur Relations Extérieures,
Banque Fédérale des Banques Populaires,
Le Ponant de Paris, 5, rue Leblanc, F- 75511 Paris Cedex 15

Avv. Gianfranco Verzaro, Direttore Generale Artigiancassa,
Via Crescenzo dal Monte, 25, I- 00153 Roma

Dott. Italo Calegari, Fedart Fidi, Vicepresidente AECM,
Via San Giovanni in Laterano 152, I- 00184 Roma

On. Benedetto Nicotra, Vicepresidente Fincredit Confapi,
Via della Colonna Antonina 52, I- 00186 Roma

**Autres organisations liées à l'Artisanat et aux PME/ Other Craft/Trades and SMEs focused organisations /
Andere Organisationen die sich für Handwerk and KMU interessieren / Altre organizzazioni collegate all'
Artigianato e alle PMI**

Mr. Peter Langard ACCA
 29 Lincoln's Inn Fields
 London WC2A 3EE
 UK
