

12 January 2018

In this issue:

- CEEP Sustainability Board: Invitation to next meeting on 23 January 2018
- CEEP News – December 2017
- Bulgarian Council Presidency Representative at next CEEP Energy Task Force Meeting
- CEEP Public Services Board: Work Programme 2018
- CEEP SGI Task Force: Work Programme 2018
- CEEP Environment Task Force: Work Programme 2018
- CEEP Water Task Force: Work Programme for 2018
- Social Europe e-newsletters
- Eversheds Sutherland : E-briefings, Updates and Conferences

CEEP Sustainability Board: Invitation to next meeting on 23 January 2018

Communication sent to Members of the CEEP Sustainability Board (09/01/2018):

First of all, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year! May it be a healthy, joyful and successful one for you!

As already mentioned in my last email to you before the Christmas break, we have been discussing with the European Commission the possibility of organising an exchange of views on the PSI (Reuse of Public Sector Information) Directive review on 23 January 2018. I am now delighted to inform you that the European Commission has just confirmed their availability for such a meeting.

Therefore, we would like to invite you also officially to the **next CEEP Sustainability Board meeting on Tuesday, 23 January 2018, from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm** at CEEP premises in Brussels. Please find hereafter [the official invitation](#) as well as [the meeting's draft agenda](#).

The meeting with a representative (*name to be confirmed and communicated by the end of this week*) of the Unit for Data Policy and Innovation at the Commission's Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CNCT) will allow us to get the latest information on the Commission's work on their upcoming legislative proposal for the PSI Directive review and to provide the input of public services providers gathered within CEEP.

In view of a coordinated CEEP position, please also find hereafter the recent [CEEP response to the Commission's public consultation on the PSI Directive review](#). Should you have any new elements (position papers, best practices etc.) that you would like to share ahead of the meeting and further discussions with representatives of the Commission, please do not hesitate to contact me as soon as possible.

For logistical reasons, please inform me about your participation in the meeting by Friday, 19 January 2018, at the latest.

For your information, and as already communicated, the Commission is also organising a [public stakeholder hearing](#) on Friday, 19 January 2018. Please note that Commission's registration closes on 12 January 2018. Our meeting on 23 January 2018 will also allow to debrief and discuss the outcomes of this stakeholder hearing.

You might also be interested in another event organised in the European Parliament on "*Big Data with Local Impact: Using Open Data to Improve Public Procurement*" on 29 January 2018. Please find hereafter [the conference agenda](#) and hereafter [the link for registration](#) (by 18 January 2018).

Moreover, regarding the planning of the next dates, please note already the tentative dates for the second meeting (31 May, 5, 6, 7, 19, 20 or 21 June 2018) and the third meeting (17 October 2018) of the CEEP Sustainability Board in 2018. We aim at confirming them shortly.

Should you have any question or remark, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer Sustainability
johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

CEEP News – December 2017

Latest Issue of CEEP News : [CEEP News – December 2017](#)

Bulgarian Council Presidency Representative at next CEEP Energy Task Force Meeting

Communications sent to Members of the CEEP Energy Task Force (21/12/2017):

I am delighted to inform you that **Ms Petya Icheva, First Secretary in charge of energy policies at the Permanent Representation of Bulgaria to the EU**, has just informed us about her interest and availability to participate in the **first CEEP Energy Task Force meeting in 2018 that will take place on Friday, 9 February 2018, from 10.15 am to 1.15 pm**, at CEEP premises in Brussels. This will be the great occasion to discuss CEEP input to the Bulgarian Council Presidency's work on the Clean Energy Package, in particular the then ongoing/upcoming trilogue negotiations on the Package's different elements. I hope that you will all be available to participate in this meeting. More information, including the meeting documents, will be sent to you in January.

You might also want to pencil in your agendas the possible options for the two other Task Force meetings in 2018 that, as usual, still depend on the availability of possible guests from the European institutions:

- 6 June (tbc)
- 9, 10, 11, or 16 October (tbc)

During the recent Energy Task Force meeting, the following priorities were identified for Work Programme 2018:

- Commission proposal for a Clean Energy Package and legislative follow-up in European Parliament and Council, in particular regarding:
 - Electricity market design
 - Renewable energy legislation
 - Energy Efficiency legislation
 - Energy Union Governance

- Review of ACER (Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) Regulation
- Future of the European energy system at the horizon 2030-2050

I would like to thank you all for your great commitment to the CEEP Energy Task Force's activities throughout 2017 and look forward to continuing working with you on these issues in 2018. In the meantime, I wish you a very joyful Christmas break and an excellent start into a happy New Year!

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer Sustainability
johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

CEEP Public Services Board: Work Programme 2018

Communication sent to Members of the CEEP Public Services Board (20/12/2017):

I would like to send you below the Work Programme for 2018 that was agreed in the last meeting of the CEEP Public Services Board:

– Evaluation of EU SME Definition

The PSB will continue to be strongly involved in the debates on the Commission Evaluation of the EU SME Definition from the point of view of local public services enterprises. The Definition currently in place prevents them from benefiting from the same opportunities as other SMEs, even though they share the same difficulties because of their small number of employees and turnover. The final objective is to enable SGIs providers to enjoy better access to the measures implemented for SMEs at the EU and national level, as well as a level playing field.

Therefore, the CEEP strategy will still be structured into two parts:

- On the short-term, CEEP will advocate towards the EU institutions in order to limit the impact of the existing definition in sectorial legislation (energy efficiency legislation, VAT reform...);
- On the long-term, CEEP will seize the opportunity of a possible revision of the definition by the EC to propose new criteria which will not discriminate local public services enterprises on the bases of their ownership structure.

In the context of the Commission's Evaluation of a possible revision, CEEP will respond to the European Commission's public consultation, which is expected by the beginning of 2018, and will encourage its members to do the same. Moreover, CEEP will provide active input to the work of the consultant in charge of the official evaluation study, commissioned by the Commission.

CEEP will also further disseminate its message through meetings with representatives from the European Parliament, the European Commission, but also from the Council of the EU. In this context, CEEP will prepare short papers giving the key elements to counter arguments developed by traditional SME representatives (how a local public enterprise is financed, how a local public enterprise is run like an actual company...).

– Commission proposal for Single Market Information Tool (SMIT)

Following the Commission's proposal for a Single Market Information Tool within its Compliance Package in May 2017, giving it the possibility to request detailed information from any company on the ground of impacts on the internal market, the PSB will disseminate the CEEP amendments to influence the European institutions' work in the legislative process in order to achieve a more balanced regulation.

– Brexit negotiations with regard to internal market related issues

The PSB will contribute to CEEP's overall input to the ongoing Brexit negotiations. A special focus will be put on issues related to the internal market, in particular public procurement. They are expected to be among the key issues in the debate on a possible future EU-UK partnership agreement and might have an important impact on public services providers in both the EU and the UK.

- **Transposition of Public Procurement Package**

Considering that the 2014 EU Procurement Package had to be fully transposed at the latest by April 2016, the PSB will continue to take a proactive stance regarding its implementation at national level. Following the questionnaire which had been sent to members in 2016 in order to create a comparative table on how CEEP's key priorities have been transposed in the different Member States, CEEP will propose an assessment of the transposition through feedbacks from legal expert as well as members working on a daily basis with these tools. This CEEP analysis will be disseminated afterwards to the Commission as well as representatives of other EU institutions.

- **New CEEP CSR Label**

The PSB will continue to support the corporate CEEP priority to prepare and further evolve the CEEP CSR Label in 2018. It will also propose a communication campaign in order to increase the number of awarded enterprises, seeking the direct support of the Commission's DG GROW who specifically recognises the key role of labels in promoting innovative public procurement (cf. EC Communication 'Making Public Procurement work in and for Europe').

- **Number of local public services enterprises in Europe**

Knowing that reliable data on local public services enterprises in Europe is a key element for the credibility of CEEP lobbying, the PSB will ask its members to contribute actively to collect figures on local public services enterprises in Europe.

The following two meeting dates were fixed:

- 22 March 2018
- 18 October 2018

For your information, the **CEEP Internal Market Task Force** will deal with the following issues:

- Debate on **reforms of the EU VAT system**, in particular regarding the future of reduced tax rates and the country of destination principle

- **EU State Aid legislation**

I also would like to inform you that the Commission has just published four proposals:

- [Minimum standard VAT rate proposal](#)

Feedback to this Commission proposal can be provided by 13 February 2018. Should you wish to propose elements for a possible CEEP feedback, please inform me about it **by 12 January 2018 at the latest** in order to best coordinate a possible draft.

- [Revision of the Public Procurement Thresholds 2018-2019 - Directive 2014/23/EU](#)
- [Revision of the Public Procurement Thresholds 2018-2019 - Directive 2014/24/EU](#)
- [Revision of the Public Procurement Thresholds 2018-2019 - Directive 2014/25/EU](#)

I would like to thank you all for your great commitment to the CEEP Public Services Board's activities throughout 2017 and look forward to continuing working with you on these issues in 2018. In the meantime, I wish you a very joyful Christmas break and an excellent start into a happy New Year!

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer

johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

CEEP SGI Task Force: Work Programme 2018

Communication sent to Members of the CEEP SGI Task Force (20/12/2017):

I would like to send you below the Work Programme for 2018 that was agreed in the last meeting of the CEEP Services of General Interest Task Force:

Trade agreements and services of general interest, in particular in view of:

- **Continuous input to ongoing EU trade negotiations to safeguard SGIs**
- **Analysis of recently concluded trade agreements**
- **Brexit and trade agreements**

Future financing models for SGIs

Urban Agenda and SGIs

The following **meeting dates** were agreed:

- 23 March 2018 (*the day after the Public Services Board meeting*)
- 13 June 2018
- 19 November 2018

I would like to thank you all for your great commitment to the CEEP SGI Task Force's activities throughout 2017 and look forward to continuing working with you on these issues in 2018. In the meantime, I wish you a very joyful Christmas break and an excellent start into a happy New Year!

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer
johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

CEEP Environment Task Force: Work Programme 2018

Communication sent to Members of the CEEP Environment Task Force (20/12/2017):

I would like to send you below the Environment Task Force's Work Programme for 2018:

Implementation of Circular Economy Strategy, in particular regarding:

- Waste legislation review
- Plastics Strategy
- Monitoring Framework
- Stakeholder Platform
- Chemicals-Products-Waste Interface
- Industry-led voluntary certification of treatment facilities for key waste/recyclate streams

Review of EU chemicals legislation

7th Environmental Action Programme

Please save the following **meeting dates**:

- **Next meeting on 14 February 2018**, from 10 am to 1 pm. Meeting documents will be circulated in January. The Water Task Force will meet in the afternoon of that same day.
- 5, 6, 7, 19, 20 or 21 June 2018 (tbc), depending on availability of possible guest(s)
- 10, 11 or 16 October 2018 (tbc), depending on availability of possible guest(s)

In addition to that and as you might already have noted, on early Monday morning, the European Council, Parliament and Commission reached a **trilogue agreement on the Commission's four legislative proposals on waste**, during the sixth round of inter-institutional negotiations with the Commission. The agreement includes a recycling target for municipal waste of 55 percent by 2025, 60 percent by 2030 and 65 percent by 2035. The Commission initially proposed 65 percent by 2030 and the Parliament wanted 70 percent by the same date. The agreement also includes a landfill cap of 10 percent by 2035, five years earlier than in the Commission's proposal, with a five-year extension for EU countries that put to landfill 60 percent of their

municipal waste or more in 2013. The Commission had proposed a 10 percent cap by 2030; the Council initially wanted the same cap but with a very broad derogation of 10 years that effectively killed it. The Parliament wanted 5 percent by 2030. The three institutions also adopted provisions making separate collection of materials – such as paper, metal, plastic and glass – and bio-waste mandatory with only targeted exemptions. They also strengthened the rules for so-called Extended Producer Responsibility schemes, under which producers bear financial responsibility for the end-of-life treatment of their products. EU countries are also encouraged to consider economic instruments such as deposit refund schemes to boost recycling.

The Commission's **next (smaller) Circular Economy Package** is expected on 16 January 2018, including the Plastics Strategy, a Monitoring Framework and the Interface of chemicals, waste and products legislation. It is not yet sure when the proposal on water reuse will be published, amongst others due to some concerns of the Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board on its economic impact. The proposal for a Drinking Water Directive review is now scheduled for 31 January 2018.

The Task Force meetings (Water and Environment) on 14 February 2018 will allow us to discuss and develop further CEEP input to these different policy files.

I would like to thank you all for your great commitment to the CEEP Environment Task Force's activities throughout 2017 and look forward to continuing working with you on these issues in 2018. In the meantime, I wish you a very joyful Christmas break and an excellent start into a happy New Year!

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer Sustainability
johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

CEEP Water Task Force: Work Programme for 2018

Communication sent to Members of the CEEP Water Task Force (20/12/2017):

I would like to send you below the **CEEP Water Task Force's Work Programme for 2018**:

- Drinking Water Directive
- Water Framework Directive
- Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive
- Pharmaceuticals in the environment
- Contribution to the Environment Task Force's activities on the Commission Plastics Strategy as well as on the 7th Environmental Action Programme
- Water & Agriculture, including CAP review and Legislation on Plant Protection Products
- Water Reuse
- Water as critical infrastructure
- Water infrastructure financing

Please save the following **meeting dates**:

- The **next Water Task Force meeting will take place on 14 February 2018**, from 2.00 to 5.00 pm. The meeting documents will be sent to you in January. Please note that the Environment Task Force will meet in the morning of that same day.
- 5, 6 or 7 June 2018 (tbc)
- 20 or 27 November 2018 (tbc)

For your information, please find hereafter the [CEEP Response to the REFIT Consultation on the Pesticides Legislation](#). I would like to thank Dieter Staat for having kindly provided the first draft of our CEEP Response.

The Commission's next (smaller) Circular Economy Package is expected on 16 January 2018, including the Plastics Strategy, a Monitoring Framework and the Interface of chemicals, waste and products legislation.

It is not yet sure when the proposal on water reuse will be published, amongst others due to some concerns of the Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board on its economic impact. The proposal for the Drinking Water Directive review is now scheduled for 31 January 2018.

The Task Force meetings (Water and Environment) on 14 February 2018 will allow us to discuss and develop further CEEP input to these different policy files.

I would like to thank you all for your great commitment to the CEEP Water Task Force's activities throughout 2017 and look forward to continuing working with you on these issues in 2018. In the meantime, I wish you a very joyful Christmas break and an excellent start into a happy New Year!

Johannes IMMINGER, Senior Policy Officer Sustainability
johannes.imminger@ceep.eu / Dir Tel: + 32 (0)2 229 21 50

Social Europe e-newsletters

Latest Social Europe e-newsletters attached:

[Social Europe Newsletter – 19 December 2017](#)

[Social Europe Newsletter – 26 December 2017](#)

[Social Europe Newsletter – 2 January 2018](#)

[Social Europe Newsletter – 9 January 2018](#)

Eversheds Sutherland : E-briefings, Updates and Conferences

See below links to information received from our partners **Eversheds Sutherland**:

[Current developments flyer](#)

[GDPR](#)

[HR Summer School 2018](#)

[Minimum-wages](#)

[Rising ET claims – Acas](#)

[The Apprenticeship Levy](#)

[TUPE updates 2018](#)

[Colleagues with Cancer](#)