

## **Third Meeting of Ad Hoc Expert Group on Institutional Care Reform 30 June 2009**

*The Ad Hoc Expert Group meeting was attended by the following Members: Jan PFEIFFER, Ask ANDERSEN, Ines BULIC, José VAN REMOORTEL, Anne-Sophie PARENT, Luk ZELDERLOO, Gert FREYHOFF, William LAY and Celine SIMONIN. The European Commission was represented by Michal Ralph (Cab Spidla), Jana BIEDERMANNNOVA (Cab Spidla), Silvio GRIECO (DG EMPL), Marie-Anne PARASKEVAS (DG EMPL) and Anna ZITO (DG JLS).*

### Programme:

#### **1. Introduction**

Mr. Ralph excused the absence of Mr. Jarab. The new members of the Group representing COFACE, Mr Lay and Ms Simonin, and Ms. Paraskevas representing the Social Inclusion unit of DG EMPL were welcomed, and a short introduction of all the participants followed. It was agreed that the comments to the first draft report will be sent by the Members of the Group to the secretariat by 17 July. The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Group will be in the beginning of September. A date was not agreed yet, the secretariat will explore in the coming days a suitable date for everybody.

#### **2. Discussion on the draft Report**

Main subject of discussion was the first draft Report that was prepared on the basis of the contributions sent by Members of the Group after the second meeting. The document was welcomed by all the Members as a good start, and then a discussion followed on structure and contents. A first tour de table was held on general remarks, then all the participants had the chance to discuss specific remarks on each section of the document.

Main general remarks were: the Report needs to be more focused on the involvement of users and their freedom of choice (*Freyhoff*); the Report should have a *chapeau* on human rights (and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU should be added as a reference - *Zito*); target readers of the Report are not-experts, so it should be more clear and less academic (*Zito, Andersen*); when it is stated that there is evidence, sources of this evidence need to be quoted (*Zito*); some data on the number of persons in institutions in the EU are needed – even if there are no precise figures it needs to be stressed that we are talking about millions of people (*Freyhoff*).

It was agreed that specific comments will not be recorded in the minutes of the meeting but directly included in TRX in the text of the draft report by the secretariat. It was agreed that this revised draft will be sent to the Members of the Group, who will have around two weeks to work on it and then send it back with their new inputs in TRX to the secretariat.

Silvio GRIECO, Jana BIEDERMANNNOVA