Private sector agreement for 2007-2008

Belgium

Just before Christmas trade unions confederations and employers completed their negotiations on the two-year intersectoral agreement that covers the two million workers in the private sector. The confederations will now carry out their own internal consultations before confirming the agreement. The agreement covers a wide range of elements. It sets an indicative pay increase of 5% over the two years 2007-2008. This is arrived at following comparison with predicted pay developments in the neighbouring countries of France, Germany and the Netherlands. The agreement also lays down two €25 increases in the minimum wage in April 2007 and October 2008. This is the first time since 1993 that the minimum wage has been increased on top of the normal indexation.

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