



Brussels, 10.7.2023
C(2023) 4573 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 10.7.2023

setting up the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on Social Services

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 152 TFEU establishes that the Union promotes the role of the social partners at its level, and that it facilitates dialogue between the social partners, respecting their autonomy, and Article 154 TFEU states that the Commission has the task to promote the consultation of management and labour at Union level.
- (2) Article 1 of Commission Decision 98/500/EC¹ states that Sectoral Dialogue Committees are established in those sectors where the social partners make a joint request to take part in a dialogue at European level, and where the organisations representing both sides of industry fulfil certain criteria.
- (3) The European social partner organisations active in the sector of social services jointly requested in July 2021 to the Commission the setting up of a European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Social Services. The request fulfils the criteria referred to in Article 1 of Decision 98/500/EC² namely, the request was submitted jointly by organisations representing both sides of industry; the requesting organisations relate to specific sectors or categories (social services) and are organised at the European level; the requesting organisations consist of organisations which are an integral and recognised part of Member States' social partner structures, have the capacity to negotiate agreements and are representative of several Member States; the requesting organisations have adequate structures to ensure their effective participation in the work of the Committees.
- (4) The Commission Communication on the European care strategy³ acknowledges that the care sector needs better social dialogue processes at national and Union levels and announces the Commission's commitment to continue exploring, together with social partners, the modalities for setting up a new sectoral social dialogue committee for social services at Union level.
- (5) The Commission Communication on strengthening social dialogue in the European Union: harnessing its full potential for managing fair transitions⁴ confirms the Commission's commitment to continue working towards setting up a new sectoral social dialogue for social services at Union level.

¹ Commission Decision 98/500/EC of 20 May 1998 on the establishment of Sectoral Dialogue Committees promoting the Dialogue between the social partners at European level (OJ L 225, 12.8.1998, p. 27).

² https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef_publication/field_ef_document/ef20019en.pdf

³ (COM(2022) 440 final).

⁴ (COM(2023) 40 final).

- (6) The existence of strong links between social services and other sectors underlines the need for a Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Social Services that works cooperatively with other social dialogue committees covering similar or linked areas, avoiding overlaps and ensuring synergies.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Social Services is set up.

Article 2

The decision is applicable as of the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 10.7.2023

For the Commission
Nicolas SCHMIT
Member of the Commission