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CESI Executive Board and Board

On 28th. May 2003 the Executive Board and the Board of the CESI met in Brussels. The presidents of the branch associations and the committees of the CESI reported on their activities and submitted their adopted statements.

In addition, the members of the Board discussed the recent trade union-politically relevant results of the European Convention, which will presumably present its draft constitution on 20th. June 2003. Furthermore, a statement on the Employment Package 2003 was adopted.

As guests for the first time participated President Wieslaw SIEWIERSKY and Secretary-General Edmund SZYNAKA of the Polish trade union forum FZZ, to which since the end of last year contact exists.

USSP

The USSP (Union des syndicats du secteur public) of CESI met on 20th./21st. May 2003 for a two-day meeting. On the first day the members dedicated themselves to the pension systems in Europe. A number of experts had been invited: Ralf JACOB of the European Commission, Johan JANSENS, Director of the Belgian Ministry for age provision, as well as Daniel JEAN, Director-General of the French PREFON.

On the following day the meeting participants dealt with the services of general interest. On the same day the European Commission published its 'Green Paper on Services of General Interest' (Download: www.cesi.org). Furthermore, Patrick VAN VOOREN of the computer science center of the Brussels region reported on "e-government" in practice.

In addition, the USSP members dedicated themselves to the training in the fields of police, finances and customs. The USSP demands a harmonization of the training in these fields, among other things, in view of

the enlargement of the European Union. The example of the European Police College should be expanded, considering however the principle of subsidiarity.

Information and consultation meeting with REDING cabinet

On 15th. May 2003 CESI vice-president Pierre TRAUSCH and the president of the CESI Education Committee Monique CARTIGNY met with the cabinet member of Commissioner Viviane REDING responsible for the fields of general and vocational education for an information and consultation talk in Brussels.

Under discussion was the current state of the developing structured dialogue in the education sector following the so-called "Bruges process" as well as the question, in which way the CESI, as a younger but equally competent partner, can be included in the informal exchange of information.

On the occasion of the meeting Mrs. CARTIGNY handed over the resolution of the CESI Education Committee on the "problems and political challenges in the teacher profession", the CESI statement of principle on the "mobility of students and trainees" as well as the CESI opinions on the communications of the Commission "European Benchmarks in Education and Training" and "Investing Efficiently in Education and Training".

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Please address your questions and comments to: Jürgen NOACK (noack@cesi.org).

Confédération Européenne des Syndicats Indépendants

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