

Standing Committee Development & Business Environment

Chairman: **Karlheinz ZACHMANN**

Vice-Chairman: **Aris CHATZIDAKIS**

ExBo Rapporteur: **Murt COLEMAN**

Presentation prepared by:

Karlheinz ZACHMANN

46th ECCE Meeting
October 19-20, 2007
Athens, Greece

Introduction

- The main issues of activities since our last General Assembly in Bucharest:

Presence and active participation in the
EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION FORUM (ECF)
(May 15, 2007 and September 17, 2007)

It is recalled that ECF is an informal gathering of 9 professional Associations / Federations directly linked with the construction sector, 8 of which are located in Brussels:

ACE
ECCE
UEPC

CEMBEREAU
EFBWW

CEPMC
EFCA

EAPA
FIEC

- ECF meets 4 times a year.

**Series of issues and items are coming up,
and thus they are being put on the ECF Agenda:**

- **the "new" New Approach**
- **Energy Efficiency of Buildings**
- **liability, warranty and guaranty**
- **modification of the Construction Products Directive**



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EUROPEAN CONSTRUCTION FORUM:

Main items and issues discussed and considered

1. Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving in Construction

- ECF is now prepared to organise an event (2 hours) in the European Parliament EP on 7/2/08 within the European Energy Efficiency week.
- The Commission envisages to revise the Directive on Energy Efficiency in Buildings in 2009
- For the moment, a number of separate Action plans on Energy Efficiency and Sustainability are under way of preparation/consultation within EC.



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2. Internal Market Package - the "new" New Approach

- Within the EP all Rapporteurs are designated.
- For the Commission Industry the rapporteur is Mr. BRIE (UK)
- There is quite a short time left to introduce amendments



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3. Modification of the Construction Products Directive (CPD)

- On June 25, 2007 ECCE participated in the DG ENTR consultation.
- From now on all consultations are closed and the draft-REGULATION will be put into the internal Commission consultation.
- It is intended to put the Commission Proposal before EP and Council before the end of 2007.
- It is completely unclear in how far the new Regulation may be influenced by the still pending "new" New Approach. - Will it be a surprise



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4. Stakeholder Consultations

- on intended Communication on Green PP (informed by ECCE Gen Sec)
 - the construction industry is in support of the application of the rule of the "economically most advantageous offer" allowing to introduce environmental criteria.
- on Energy Efficiency
 - before the general Action Plan on Sustainability and Energy Efficiency is finalised and issued, a lot of partial action plans are forwarded by the Commission services, e.g. the Action Plan on Sustainable Industrial Policy.

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4. Stakeholder Consultations

- **Inside the various Federations internal consultations and enquiries are launched.**
- **Miscellaneous**
 - on October 8, 2007 consultation within the SCC Preparatory Group of SCC
 - in 2008 study on possibilities for access of SMEs to standardisation
 - on June 19, 2007 EGOLF presentation (read out due to absence of ECCE)

WHAT next ?

- try to be kept informed
- look at the EFCA study outcome on liability - focused on engineers in construction
- be alert with respect to the "new" New Approach
- see what the CPD draft Regulation will be