Programme

Energy for all: what role should the EU play and what steps should it take?

How to help the most vulnerable cope with increased energy costs

27 November 2012
8.45 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Venue: European Economic and Social Committee
2 rue Van Maerlant – 1040 Brussels
Room VM3 (2nd floor, Van Maerlant building)

Working languages: English – French – Italian

8.45 Registration and Welcome coffee

Morning session:

9.15 Welcome statements
- Stéphane Buffetaut, President of the Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society, European Economic and Social Committee
- Remo Sernagiotto, President of Elisan, Regional Minister for Social Services, Veneto Region

9.30 European initiatives to tackle energy challenges: reconciling the activities of the European institutions with sustainable social development
Moderator: Barbara Trentin, President of the Elisan Steering Committee
- Staffan Nilsson, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
- Gyula Hegyi, member of Cabinet of the Commissioner László Andor, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
- Jan Panek, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission
- Pervenche Berès, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, European Parliament, tbc
- Michel Lebrun, Member of the Parliament of the French-speaking Community of Belgium, Committee of the Regions
- Antonio Cancian, Substitute Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, European Parliament

10.45 Coffee break

11 a.m. Fuel poverty and local social action: practices, experiences and observations
Moderator: Daniel Zielinski, Member of the Elisan Steering Committee, Representative of UNCCAS
- Christian Ragger, Vice President of Elisan, Minister for Social Affairs, Carinthia region
- Dumitru Fornea, Group II, Workers, Romania, Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society, European Economic and Social Committee
- Marie-Automne Thepot, Deputy General Director, Development & Innovation, CCAS de Grenoble (Grenoble Municipal Social Action Centre), winner of the 2011 Energy Poverty prize
- Jim O’Sullivan, Director of the London Warm Zone
  • Good practice from STEBO vzw (Genk, Flanders)
    - Erwin De bruyn, Director of STEBO vzw: “Intensive coaching in change of energy behavior in economically vulnerable families”
  • Presentation of the European Guide “Bright Ideas” and of “Lux Ultime”, small abridgment on energy poverty

Morning round-up
Christian Ragger, Vice President of Elisan, Minister for Social Affairs, Carinthia region,

12 noon Award ceremony for the 2012 Alzheimer's prize, organised by the Elisan network and Fondation Médéric Alzheimer
Moderator: Barbara Trentin, President of the Elisan Steering Committee

12.45 Buffet lunch: Atrium 6, EESC Jacques Delors Building (rue Belliard 99)

Afternoon session:

2.15 Use of the Structural Funds in the area of energy efficiency and housing
Moderator: Sorcha Edwards, Deputy Secretary General, Energy coordination, communication
Power House Europe Project leader, CECODHAS HOUSING EUROPE
  • What are the prospects for social housing and social and medical-welfare structures?
  - Stéphane Buffetaut, President of the Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society, European Economic and Social Committee
  - Maud Skäringer, Policy Analyst, Regional Policy DG, Unit D.2 - Thematic coordination, innovation, European Commission
  - Raymond Hencks, EESC Member and Rapporteur for the opinion on social housing as a service of general economic interest, European Economic and Social Committee
  • Q&A
3 p.m.  Coffee break

3.15  Education on energy matters in the context of intergenerational solidarity
Target group: older people – user participation
Moderator: Anne-Sophie Parent, Secretary General of AGE Platform Europe

- How can we promote preventative action in the area of energy in order to protect the most vulnerable, especially older people? Education on "energy issues" for all with a view to dealing with environmental and climate challenges
- Group of experts:
  - Stéphane Joly, Deputy Mayor of Reims, 8th Vice-President in charge of Sustainable Development, UNCCAS
  - Roberto Vidori, founding member, Osservatorio Domotecnica
  - Daniel Dantand, general coordinator, GDF SUEZ
  Partnership GDF SUEZ – ELISAN: news from the Observatory for energy and water poverty

4.30  Conclusions on a joint approach to tackling fuel poverty
Long-term strategies, governance and methods

- Recommendations by Elisan and an appeal for good practices
  - Richard Adams, Member and President of the permanent study group on the European Energy Community, European Economic and Social Committee
  - Remo Sernagiotto, President of Elisan, Regional Minister for Social Services, Veneto Region

5 p.m.  End of proceedings