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Social Policy Update

Document for information

Purpose of this item

The purpose of this document is to give you a brief overview of the main work being carried out by EDF in the field of Social Policy.

Members will be presented with an update of discussions from within the Social Policy and Inclusion Committee on EDF's social policy activities.

Questions for members

- 1) Are there any areas you would like to see EDF focus on more closely in its social policy work?

What are our current areas of priority in Social Policy?

- Completion and dissemination of the Human Rights Report on Poverty and Social Exclusion of Persons with Disabilities
 - The report has been sent to the board for review
 - We have been asking the national members to review information relevant to their country
- Coordinating EDF's position on the current EU Disability Strategy and on the future European Disability Rights Agenda 2020-2030.
 - This involves coordinating our feedback to the Commission on the success of their current strategy and devising clear direction and concrete proposals for what we want its replacement to look like.

- Lobbying the Parliament and the Council on the Multiannual Financial Framework throughout the final trilogue stage of negotiations.
 - We are lobbying particularly around the rules for the use of funds in the Common Provisions regulation, the European Social Fund Plus and the European Regional Development Fund.
 - We are now presenting our red lines to the Member States and to all the rapporteurs in the Parliament via email and with face-to-face meetings.
- Advocacy around the European Pillar of Social Rights. Currently we are defining our position on what we want to see from Principle 17 – Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.
- Active advocacy on deinstitutionalisation and investment in community-based services, as part of the European Expert Group on the Transition from institutional to Community-Based Care
- Continued training of Members on how to engage in the European Semester Process.
 - The first of these training sessions took place during a workshop at the EDF 2019 General Assembly
 - Some EDF Members also attended a Commission-run event on engaging in the European Semester on the 22nd of October (invitation sent out in Members' Mailing°).
- Planned events on the themes of poverty and social exclusion, disability assessment and inclusive education for persons with intellectual disabilities.
- Advocacy on improved and disaggregated data collection by Eurostat and participation in Washington Group Annual Meetings.