



EUNEC conference

24-25 October 2005, Brussels

The consultation process

on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)

After the publication by the Commission in July of its comprehensive staff working paper on the **European Qualifications Framework (EQF)**, the Ministers of Education agreed in London on 12 July a wide ranging consultation process to reach all relevant stakeholders at national, regional and sectoral level – including all Bologna countries and stakeholders. The objective of the planned EQF is to create a **European framework** which will enable qualifications systems at national and sectoral level to relate to each other. This reference structure will be used on a voluntary basis and will facilitate the transfer and recognition of qualifications held by individual citizens.

The Commission is consulting the 32 countries participating in the Education and Training 2010 work programme, the European Social Partners, the relevant European associations, NGOs and networks, and the European industry sector associations e.g. ICT, construction, marketing etc. Their responses will be taken into account in establishing the final content and structure of the EQF, prior to a formal proposal in 2006. The **consultation** will close at the end of December 2005.

EUNEC wants to participate in this process. The aim of the conference is that the members of EUNEC should be able to **interchange** their points of view on the EQF. Therefore we foresee an extensive presentation of the EQF, followed by an elaborate debate on the consultation questions. In annex, you will find the consultation questions and a short presentation of the EQF. Member councils will be asked to prepare their contribution very well, because these contributions are essential for the proceeding of the conference. At the end of the conference EUNEC will try to formulate **common statements** on this theme.

You will receive as soon as possible the programme and the preparatory documents for this conference. You can download the consultation document of the Commission on http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/policies/2010/doc/consultation_eqf_en.pdf

We have the opportunity to pay an important part of the expenses (flight, accommodation) for **one** participant of your council. We would like to ask you to confirm your participation **before October the 10th**. We hope you will accept our invitation so we will have the pleasure of meeting you in Brussels, October the 24th and 25th.

Best regards,

The Executive Committee of EUNEC