

EUNEC newsletter
June 2009

1 EUNEC Membership

EUNEC is pleased to welcome the application for membership of the Haut Conseil de l'Education (France) and the National Council for Public education (Hungary). The National Agency for School Improvement (Sweden) has been closed down and is therefore no longer a member of EUNEC.

EUNEC as European organisation acting in the field of education and training

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) awarded EUNEC with a Specific Operating Grant for 2009. This means that EUNEC will be recognised and granted as **European organisation** acting in the field of education and training under the Jean Monnet Programme (key activity 3). This gives the network the opportunity to present an ambitious project in 2009. This project was presented on the General Assembly of 19 May in The Hague. You can find the EUNEC **annual plan 2009** on the website (www.eunec.eu).

3 EUNEC Executive Committee

The **Executive Committee** of EUNEC met on 17 December in Brussels and on 17 May in The Hague. You can find the **minutes** of the meetings on the website (<u>www.eunec.eu</u>).

4 EUNEC conference 'The teaching profession; changes, challenges and perspectives' (Vilnius, 13-15 October 2008)

The full report of the conference is available on the website (www.eunec.eu)

5 Expert Seminar in The Hague, on 17 and 18 May 2009

At a European level, there is an ongoing debate on the innovation of education and training systems. The European year for innovation and creativity calls upon education systems to consider their role in shaping the society of tomorrow. Creativity and

innovation in society and education/training are seen as key elements in the recovery strategies facing the economic crisis.

For EUNEC this is not a new theme. At several conferences the innovative role of the education/training system and the contribution stakeholders can play in stimulating this debate has been discussed. A concrete feature of that ongoing debate is the 'Updated strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training'.

To discover how to imagine the future, the OECD informed the participants about the methodology of future thinking.

Education councils presented how they answer the following questions:

- How to pick up societal demands and how to translate them into education policy?
- How to enhance the innovative role of education in society?

Participants at the seminar discussed in workshops on how innovation can be implemented

- at curriculum level and at school level (embedding schools in an innovative regional societal context and network) and
- at policy level (educational authorities creating conditions for educational reform; the involvement of stakeholders in creating a support for educational reform and the role of education councils).

Mr José Pessanha, from the European Commission, has commented the updated strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training, focusing on the four strategic challenges in the years to 2020 and on the role of stakeholders in the decision making process.

You can find the powerpoint presentations of the speakers at this seminar at www.eunec.eu.

6 Forthcoming event: Conference in Budapest, Hungary, from 12 until 14 October 2009

There will be two conference themes.

Theme 1: Guidance to children, young people and adults through the transition moments in their learning pathways.

Theme 2: The study on Education Councils and Advisory Bodies in the EU. In 2008, the Executive Committee decided to order a study on education councils and advisory bodies in the enlarged EU.

In 2009, the researchers will proceed to an in-depth case analysis of six education councils. Cases are chosen based on inventory and survey results, after consultation with the steering group and feedback from an international expert committee. Preliminary results of this study will be discussed at the conference.

7 A State of Affairs of the European Education Policy

To keep up with the activities of the European education policy, the EUNEC secretariat made a state of affairs in May 2009.

In this document you can find information on the following subjects:

1. The European Union

An updated strategic framework for European Cooperation in Education and Training

The Communication on new skills for new jobs

The 6th Bologna Ministerial Conference in Leuven and Louvain-la-Neuve

The European Youth policy

The European Year of Creativity and Innovation

The Czech Presidency

2. Recent publications from OECD, UNESCO, UNICEF and the Council of Europe

You can read the full text of the State of Affairs on the website (www.eunec.eu).

8 Remarks

You are kindly invited to send all questions and remarks on EUNEC and this newsletter to eunec@vlor.be