



EFFAT

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM TRADE UNIONS

7 May 2013

• **To all EFFAT Member Organisations**

RE: Day of action on public procurement – Brussels, 28 May 2013

Dear Colleagues

As we have informed you earlier, trilogue negotiations (or informal tripartite meetings attended by representatives of the European Parliament, Council and Commission) on the revision of the public procurement directive are underway.

The inclusion of social considerations in EU legislation is of fundamental importance. Therefore, EFFAT and other European trade union federations are campaigning for a directive that supports fair competition based on the principle of quality and sustainability of products and services which should not result in a race to the bottom in working conditions.

As part of this campaign, UNI Europa, with the support of ETUC, EPSU, EFBWW and EFFAT, is organising a day of action to raise awareness among EU decision makers on the concrete consequences that a bad public procurement directive could entail for working conditions.

A delegation of around 300 workers will gather on 28 May 2013 in front of the Internal Market and Services Directorate General (DG MARKT) at Rue de Spa 2 in Brussels. Workers will simulate a vote on the European directive, urging that the directive should:

- **aim at a better use of public money**
- **eliminate the lowest cost criteria** as the main criteria for the awarding contracts
- **require compliance with labour law and collective agreements** of the host country, extended to the whole subcontracting chain
- **exclude abnormally low bids** to avoid a race to the bottom in wages and working conditions

EFFAT will encourage Belgian affiliates and canteen staff in the European institutions to mobilise for the action and asks you to express your support for the action by publicising the message through your websites, newsletters and other media.

Full details of the European trade union federations' joint demands regarding the directive are set out in the attached letter to the Director General of DG MARKT.

Yours sincerely

Harald Wiedenhofer
General Secretary