



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF FINLAND



European Economic and Social Committee

# Labour Mobility in the Lisbon Agenda

## PROGRAMME

Helsinki, 4-5 September 2006

Marina Congress Center, Katajanokanlaituri 6

Conference organized by the Economic Council of Finland (EC) and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

### **Focus of the conference**

The conference is aimed at discussing the following broad themes associated with labour mobility:

- 1) The "demand" for labour mobility in a dynamic economy capable of providing jobs and high growth of productivity as set out in the Lisbon agenda;
- 2) the factual trends in different types of labour mobility in Europe (occupational and spatial mobility); to what extent can labour mobility be considered inadequate at present;
- 3) the costs of mobility to individuals and communities and the resulting frictions in mobility;
- 4) the policies that would enhance labour mobility while paying adequate attention to the costs and disadvantages of mobility.

### **Participants**

Representatives of the EESC and European economic and social councils and their background organisations, policy-makers at various levels and senior civil servants and researchers.

## **Monday, 4 September 2006**

13.00 **Registration/welcoming**

14.00 **Opening session**

- President of the Economic Council of Finland, Prime Minister *Matti Vanhanen*
- President of the European Economic and Social Committee *Anne-Marie Sigmund*

14.30 **How important is labour mobility for the Lisbon objectives?**

- Professor *Eric Bartelsman*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam:  
The links between labour reallocation and productivity
- Deputy Director *Jørgen Elmeskov*, OECD:  
How mobile is labour in practice in Europe, and in what ways?
- Discussion

16.15 **Coffee**

16.45 **The problems of labour mobility**

- Professor *Klaus Zimmermann*, Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA), Bonn:  
The causes and consequences of labour immobility

17.15 **Labour Mobility, a key aspect of EU Employment Policy**

- Deputy Director General *Lenia Samuel*, European Commission, DG EMPL
- Discussion

18.15 **End of the first day**

19.40 **Bus** from the hotel Scandic Grand Marina to the House of the Estates

20.00 **Dinner** (House of the Estates, Snellmaninkatu 9–11)

- Speech by Governor *Erkki Liikanen*, Bank of Finland

**Tuesday, 5 September 2006**

**9.00 Introduction / Link with the first day**

- President of the SOC Section of EESC *Henri Malosse*

**9.15 "Mobility – fears and opportunities"**

- Confederal Secretary *Catelene Passchier*, ETUC:  
The problems of mobility: the point of view of employees
- Manager *Bolette Wildt*, Global People Mobility, Novo Nordisk:  
What type of mobility does a company need? The point of view of a European company
- Director *Jorma Karppinen*, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions:  
Cases of successful reconciliation of different needs
- Discussion

**10.30 Coffee**

**11.00 Panel discussion on "Mobility policy – how to enhance mobility while respecting the needs of the people"**

(with an open debate at the end)

Panel:

- Mediator: *Karl-Johan Lönnroth*, European Commission, DG Translation
- *Johan ten Geuzendam*, European Commission, DG EMPL
- *Mari Kiviniemi*, Finnish MP
- *Sylvia Sciberras*, EESC, Employers' Group, Malta
- *Ernst Erik Ehnmark*, EESC, Employees' Group, Sweden
- *Tomasz Czajkowski*, EESC, Various Interests' Group, Poland

**12.30 Closing session**

- President of the SOC Section of EESC *Henri Malosse*
- Secretary General of the Economic Council of Finland *Vesa Vihriälä*

**13.00 End of conference  
Lunch**