

AGENDA

Equinet Annual General Meeting

5 December 2012



Venue: Hotel Bloom, Rue Royale 250, 1210 Brussels, Belgium

TUESDAY 4th December 2012 (Networking Event)

19:00 – 22:00 Equinet Social Event – Welcome reception and networking dinner

WEDNESDAY 5th December 2012 (AGM)

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 10.00 Session 1 – Equinet

Chair: Jozef de Witte, Chair of Equinet Board

Welcome and Introduction

Jozef De Witte

Report from Equinet Board

Chair of Equinet Board

- Implementation of Equinet 2012 work programme
- Introduction Equinet Work Plan proposal for 2013

Q&A – discussion

New Equinet membership

Introduction of candidate equality body:

- Commission for Protection against Discrimination, FYR of Macedonia

Vote

Ratification

Equinet Membership Voting items:

- Equinet Accounts 2011 **Vote**
- Minutes Equinet AGM 2011 **Vote: amendments & final text**
- Equinet Work Plan 2013 **Vote: amendments & final text**
- Updated Equinet Board Elections Procedures **Vote: amendments & final text**

10.00 – 10.30 Coffee Break

10.30 – 11.15 Session 2 – EU Perspectives

Chair: Evelyn Collins, Chief Executive, Equality Commission for Northern Ireland

Opening by the Chair of the session

EU Commission - Perspectives for equality and non-discrimination

Lina Papamichalopoulou

Head of Unit D4, DG Justice, European Commission

EIGE – Perspectives for equality and non-discrimination

Barbara Limanowska

Head of Operations, European Institute for Gender Equality

Q&A - plenary discussion

11.15 – 12.30 Session 3 – Structured Discussion Groups / Work Priorities for NEBs

Group Discussions

Discussion tables structured around five key issues for equality bodies

- *Taking on roles under the UNCRPD*
- *Towards standards for equality bodies*
- *Combining Equality & Human Rights mandates*
- *Making the best use of EU funding opportunities*

You will be able to participate in ONE of the above discussion groups, depending on your stated preference in the registration form.

More information about the questions to be addressed in these discussions can be found on the next page.

12.30 – 14.00 Networking Lunch

14.00 – 14.45 Session 4 – Reviewing the EU Directives

Chair: Tamás Kádár, Policy Officer / Acting Director, Equinet Secretariat

Legal Expert Presentation

Costanza Hermanin

Q&A - Discussion

Program Officer, Open Society European Policy Institute

14.45 – 16.00 Session 5 – Shaping Key Activities for 2013

Group Discussions – World Café

Discussion tables structured around five key Equinet activities

- *Supporting Equality Bodies in framing and shaping their profile through communication*
- *Enabling an equality body contribution to the review of EU Directives*
- *Supporting equality bodies to engage with duty bearers*
- *Towards a ‘perspective’ on work on the sexual orientation ground*
- *Developing Equinet priorities in the field of gender equality*

You will be able to rotate from one table to another every 25 minutes, meaning that you will be able to participate in 3 of the 5 group discussions.

More information about the questions to be addressed in these discussions can be found on the next page.

16.00 – 16.15 Session 6 - Closing

Closing Remarks

Anne Gaspard, Equinet Executive Director

Jozef De Witte, Chair of Equinet Board



With the support of the European Commission

SESSION 3 STRUCTURED DISCUSSION GROUPS

1. Taking on roles under the UNCRPD

What steps are equality bodies with this mandate taking to prepare for these roles? What barriers do they face in fulfilling these roles and how might these be overcome? What supports do equality bodies need to play these roles effectively?

2. Towards standards for equality bodies

How would standards assist equality bodies? What specific issues should these standards address? How could existing standards be used or developed to assist equality bodies?

3. Combining equality and human rights mandates

How are these two mandates organised within the one body? What concepts, structures, and activities assist in developing an integrated approach to these two mandates? What are the barriers to a single body effectively implementing these two mandates and how might these be overcome?

4. Making best use of EU funding opportunities

What EU funding sources do equality bodies have access to? What activities are they implementing with this EU funding? What issues do they face in securing and using this funding and how are these issues best addressed?

SESSION 5 WORLD CAFÉ DISCUSSION GROUPS

1. Supporting equality bodies in framing and shaping their profile through communication

What steps do equality bodies take to secure a positive profile among the general public for their equality body? What difficulties do they face in securing such a profile and how are these difficulties best addressed?

2. Enabling an equality body contribution to the review of the EU Directives.

What changes could usefully be made in the specific provisions of the 'Race' and 'Employment' Directives? What new provisions could usefully be included in the 'Race' and 'Employment' Directives? What further provisions could be made in the 'Race' and 'Employment' Directives in relation to equality bodies?

3. Supporting equality bodies to engage with duty bearers.

Who do equality bodies identify as the key duty bearers? What is the purpose of engaging with each of these duty bearers? How do equality bodies most effectively engage with each of these duty bearers? What difficulties do they face in engaging with these duty bearers and how are these difficulties best addressed?

4. Towards a 'perspective' on work on the sexual orientation ground.

What different types of work have equality bodies done on the sexual orientation ground? What issues on the sexual orientation ground have been addressed by equality bodies in this work? What difficulties do equality bodies experience in their work on this ground and how might these best be addressed?

5. Developing Equinet priorities in the field of gender equality

What work is already being done at EU level on the gender ground? What issues on the gender ground are equality bodies currently working on? What issues could Equinet take initiative on that would add value to the current work of equality bodies on this ground?