



Baltic Sea Labour Forum

Press release – for immediate transmission

1st Meeting of the Enlarged Steering Committee: A new agenda for a fair, competitive and sustainable Baltic Sea Region

20 April 2012, Hamburg

We are pleased to announce the ***first meeting of the Enlarged Steering Committee (ESC)*** which took place on Friday 20 April 2012 at the premises of NORDMETALL, the employers association of the metal and electronics industry, Germany and which was chaired by Franz Thönnies, MP, German Parliament, former Parliamentary State Secretary, and Member of the Standing Committee of the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference.

The Baltic Sea Labour Forum ***is the one and only network of the social partners in the Baltic Sea Region***, involving a wide range of social partners and others. It serves as a platform for exchange of experience and communication between the key labour market actors in the Baltic Sea Region.

The Enlarged Steering Committee has agreed on two common focus areas for 2012-13 which are *mobility of labour* and *youth unemployment*. The members of the Baltic Sea Labour Forum will ***establish working groups*** in order to identify the main common challenges for the labour markets in the Baltic Sea Region and for developing joint solutions.

In late autumn 2012 the ***second Annual Round Table*** of the Baltic Sea Labour Forum will be organised in Hamburg.

We look forward to updating our partners in the next few weeks with more news from Baltic Sea Labour Forum – the only cooperation body where trade union, employer organisation parliament and governmental organisation representatives work together to create sustainable regional labour markets within in the BSR: www.cbss.org/bslf

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