



EUNEC-newsletter 9 July 2006

1 EUNEC conference in Lisbon (19-20 June 2006)

On 19 and 20 June 2006, EUNEC held a conference in Lisbon on the issue '**Key competences and education for vulnerable groups**'. Starting from the proposal of the Commission for a **recommendation** of the European parliament and of the Council on **key competences** for lifelong learning (2005/0221 COD), EUNEC wanted to analyse the impact of these key competences on education for vulnerable groups.

Jorge Pedreira (Secretary of State for education in Portugal) opened the conference. **Tapio Saavala** (European Commission) presented the Commission's proposal. **Maria Herczog** (European Economic and Social Committee) and **Mia Douterlungne** (general secretary of EUNEC) formulated critical remarks on the proposal. On Monday afternoon, **Alexandra Figueiredo** and **Maria Céu Roldão** reflected on the relation between key competences and equal opportunities, social cohesion and the core curriculum. **Adrie van der Rest** (Onderwijsraad – NL) and **Manuel Miguens** (Education Council – P) closed the first day with a survey of recommendations of their councils on the conference theme. On Tuesday 20 June, **Julio Pedrosa**, president of the Portuguese education council, gave his vision on the conference theme and explained the ongoing national debate on education in Portugal. Afterwards, the EUNEC members discussed and amended a proposal of statements. Finally, the official **statements** were approved by the General Assembly of EUNEC.

You can download the report and the Powerpoint-presentations of the conference on: www.eunec.org ? Reports and publications. You will also find there a summary of the conference in French

2 A new president for EUNEC

The General Assembly of EUNEC designated **Simone Barthel** (CEF – Belgium) as new president of EUNEC for 2006-2007. She succeeds **Fons van Wieringen** (Onderwijsraad – NL).

3 EUNEC will participate in the MoVE-iT study on 'Obstacles to mobility in VET'

The MoVE-iT project is a study, running in 2006, commissioned by the European Commission, DG Education and Culture. The project focuses on obstacles and solutions to transnational **mobility** in vocational education and training (VET). Goal is to enhance the number of VET participants going on a placement abroad.

On **Thursday 9 and Friday 10 November 2006**, EUNEC will be invited to the conference in Brussels on the theme. On the second day, there should be a EUNEC workshop (9.30-12.30) to discuss and edit EUNEC statements and comments on the MoVE-iT study. All EUNEC member councils will receive a first announcement and a demand for active cooperation during the month of July. You can read more about this

project on our website (www.eunec.org) and on the website of the project (<http://room.projectcoordinator.net/projectweb/435bc339b0795/Information.html>)

4 State of affairs European education policy

It is not always easy to keep up with all the activities in the European education policy. For that reason, the EUNEC secretariat made a new **State of affairs (June 2006)** of all the running processes in the European education policy. You can find this document on our website (www.eunec.org ? EUNEC documents). The document of 14 pages contains a treasury of information on:

1. Recent documents of the European Commission

- 1.1 Delivering on the modernisation agenda for universities: education, research and innovation (10 May 2006)
- 1.2 Progress towards the Lisbon objectives in education and training. Report based on the benchmarks (16 May 2006)
- 1.3 Information note on the consultation on the future European credit accumulation and transfer system for vocational education and training (ECVET) (11 May 2006)

2. The Council of Ministers of Education (19 May 2006)

- 2.1 The European indicator of language competence
- 2.2 Key competences for lifelong learning
- 2.3 The European Quality Charter for mobility
- 2.4 The lifelong learning programme
- 2.5 Review of the EU's sustainable development strategy
- 2.6 Other business

3. Other education news

5 Questions

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