

**UDENRIGSMINISTERIET**

**EUROPAUDVALGET**

Alm. del - Bilag 962 (offentligt)

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1

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Til underretning for Folketingets Europaudvalg vedlægges i forbindelse med Det Europæiske Råd i Stockholm den 23.-24. marts 2001 Kommissionens meddelelse vedrørende udnyttelse af Den Europæiske Unions potentiale - konsolidering og udbygning af Lissabon-strategien (sammenfattende rapport), 6455/01 ADD 1.



FORDELT  
- 8 MRS. 2001

RÅDET FOR  
DEN EUROPÆISKE UNION

Bruxelles, den 23. februar 2001 (02.03)  
(OR. en)

6455/01  
ADD 1

Udvalget for Social Beskyttelse  
Udvalget for Social Beskyttelse

LIMITE

05. MAR 2001

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RECH 13  
TRANS 23

#### ADDENDUM TIL FØLGESKRIVELSE

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til: Coreper/Rådet (beskæftigelse og social- og arbejdsmarkedspolitik)

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Komm. forsl. nr.: 6248/01 CAB 4 ECO 37 ECOFIN 35 EDUC 26 ENER 8 IND 4 MI 17 RECH 9 SOC 64 TRANS 17 + ADD 1

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Vedr.: Udtalelse fra Udvalget for Social Beskyttelse om meddelelse fra Kommissionen: Udnyttelse af Den Europæiske Unions potentiale - konsolidering og udbygning af Lissabon-strategien - bidrag fra Europa-Kommissionen til Det Europæiske Råds forårsmøde i Stockholm den 23.-24. marts 2001  
- Skrivelse fra Raoul Briet til Mona Sahlin

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Hermed følger til delegationerne teksten til den skrivelse, som Raoul Briet, formand for Udvalget for Social Beskyttelse, har sendt til Mona Sahlin, formand for Rådet (beskæftigelse og social- og arbejdsmarkedspolitik).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Skrivelsen blev kun fremsendt til rådssekretariatet på engelsk.



# The Social Protection Committee

*The Chairman*

Brussels, 23 February 2001

Dear Minister Sahlin,

I am attaching herewith an Opinion of the Social Protection Committee on the Commission Communication 'Realising the European Union's potential : consolidating and extending the Lisbon strategy'. This has been drawn up in response to your request to the Committee to prepare an Opinion with a view to the preparation of the Stockholm European Council.

The main points we wish to emphasise in the Opinion are :

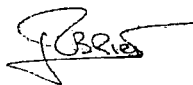
- The Commission Synthesis Report is welcome, and in particular its stated intention to further develop the **integrated and mutually reinforcing policy response adopted in Lisbon**. However, the Committee feels that the Report and the ten priority actions it proposes do not sufficiently reflect the overall balance between economic and social policies which was agreed in Lisbon and confirmed in the European Social Agenda : implementing the Lisbon Strategy requires a policy mix based on a triangle of economic, employment and social policies which work together in mutually reinforcing ways.
- The Committee emphasises the need to promote **quality** in employment as well as in social policies. It underlines that promoting gender equality is part of such quality policies.
- The Committee would have welcomed a **better reflection** of the Lisbon objective of a greater social cohesion and of the specific steps which have been initiated to implement it.

Mrs Mona SAHLIN  
Minister of Industry, Employment and  
Communications  
SE - 103 33 STOCKHOLM

- The Committee considers that promoting social inclusion would have merited being highlighted as it was in Lisbon and therefore referred to as a 11<sup>th</sup> policy priority. The Committee feels that good foundation for the fight against poverty and social exclusion has been made with the open method of coordination. It is determined to further develop policy progress in this area, on the basis of the Nice endorsement of appropriate objectives and the preparation of national action plans as well as of the important work which is underway on indicators to monitor EU and Member States efforts.
- The Committee welcomes the importance that the Report attaches to ageing and its consequences for pensions systems. However, it stresses that this challenge is broader than that of achieving financial sustainability. In accordance with the comprehensive approach to sustainability and quality of pensions agreed in Nice, the Committee considers that the cooperative effort on pensions reform must consider together social, employment and public finance aspects of pensions systems. The Committee will present a report along these lines to the Council, in the run-up to the Göteborg European Council, and it intends to further develop its work in this area. It welcomes the announcement of a Commission Communication to promote such cooperation.
- The Committee stresses that efforts to promote social cohesion go beyond these two objectives of combating social exclusion and ensuring sustainable pensions. It emphasises the key importance of social policies, together with employment and economic policies, to achieving the strategic objective agreed in Lisbon. It reaffirms its intent to contribute to this integrated approach and to cooperate to this end with interested bodies.

I hope that you will find this contribution useful as an input to your deliberations in advance of the Stockholm European Council.

Yours sincerely,



Raoul BRIET