

Joint Statement Eurelectric/ EPSU/industriAll Europe

A quality framework for traineeships

As social partners we are committed to ensure young workers also find jobs in the electricity sector. The industry will need many new workers to replace workers that will retire and to deal with new challenges and new technologies.

We are concerned about persistent and high youth unemployment. This will be damaging to society. We support the attention of the European Commission to address youth unemployment in the recent Communication **Towards a Job rich recovery**. We welcome the consultation on **a quality framework for traineeships**. Issues of "low pay, low protection and poor terms and conditions as well as the lack of high quality learning content, the use of trainees to carry out mundane work, and the substitution of trainees for regular employees" need to be addressed as the Commission underlines in its consultation paper.

Equally we agree that the quality framework should include the elements the Commission suggests such as: conclusion of a traineeship agreement, defining the professional and learning objectives and tutoring/guidance, recognition of the traineeship, reasonable duration, adequate social protection and remuneration of the trainee and the transparency of rights and obligations. Several of our members have experience addressing these issues in collective agreements, company level agreements and other policies in accordance with national practices.

When the inter-sectoral partners agree to address these issues through negotiations we will contribute through our respective organisations. If the European Commission will proceed with preparing legislation, we want to be further consulted.

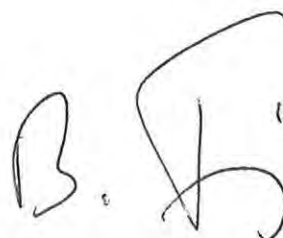
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