

Our N: REGISTRY(2018)/A/2618

Dear Ms Mdivani,

Thank you for the information and your interest in cooperation with the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work. Your letter comes timely as just recently my colleague Tim Tregenza (in copy) participated on behalf of the Agency in a workshop in Tbilisi on “Labour standards and inspections” which took place on 19-20th September.

Regarding the cooperation between EU-OSHA and Georgia, I would like to give you a short summary of the past cooperation which may be a good fundament for the future.

Between 2014 and 2015 EU-OSHA implemented a project financed through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) to enable partner countries to participate in the work of the Agency. One of the target countries in EU-OSHA’s project was Georgia.

In April 2015, EU-OSHA visited Tbilisi and met with representatives from the Georgian Ministry of Labour, the ILO and social partners. During this mission, the planned reintroduction of labour inspectors in Georgia was discussed with the need to provide training to these inspectors. A contact point within the ministry of Labour was appointed.

In July same year EU-OSHA was invited by the Ministry and the ILO to participate in the initial training of the pilot monitors by delivering a sessions on the EU Framework Directive and the Risk Assessment process. EU-OSHA participated in a national tripartite workshop to discuss the new OSH legislation for Georgia and outline a planned awareness raising campaign. There was translation of some publications of the Agency and other tools to support a public awareness campaign in Georgia in line with the European Healthy Workplaces Campaign.

Unfortunately with the end of the ENP project at 2015 EU-OSHA “lost” the dedicated project manager and as a result the majority of the activities with Georgia as well as the rest of the beneficiary countries neighbour countries stopped. Occasionally the Agency answers a call for information or invitation to a conference.

I would like to assure you on the good will for cooperation on behalf of the Agency. However without specialised funding the scope of actions is limited to provision of information on demand and occasional participation in awareness raising and/or capacity building activities. EU-OSHA can offer access and guidance to information concerning Occupational Health and Safety issues and European

good practices. We can also support Georgian stakeholders in the field of occupational safety and health in finding European counterpart administration for possible bilateral cooperation, expert missions or study visits funded through other instruments (TAIEX). EU-OSHA can also host a short term study visit of Georgian representatives after further coordination.

In case you need more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

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