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MISSCEO(2008)9

**SYSTÈME MUTUEL D'INFORMATION SUR LA PROTECTION SOCIALE  
DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE  
(MISSCEO)**

**10<sup>e</sup> réunion**

**(Erevan, 9-10 juillet 2008)**

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**RAPPORT DE REUNION**

## **I. OUVERTURE DE LA RÉUNION**

1. La 10<sup>e</sup> réunion annuelle du MISSCEO a eu lieu à Erevan, Arménie. Mme Anahit MARTIROSIAN, Chef de la Division des Relations internationales du Ministère du travail et des affaires sociales de l'Arménie ouvre la réunion et souhaite la bienvenue aux participants. Mme Ana GÓMEZ HEREDERO, responsable du Secrétariat du MISSCEO préside la réunion, remercie les coorganisateurs arméniens et présente les nouveaux correspondants : Mme Diana BEQIRI (Albanie), Mme Mirha OSIJAN (Bosnie-Herzégovine) et Mme Lyudmyla TKACHOVA (Ukraine). Pour rappel, un total de 12 pays européens et 3 pays observateurs participent à la préparation des tableaux MISSCEO. 16 participants représentant 10 pays européens étaient présentes à cette réunion. La liste des participants fait l'objet de l'annexe I.

## **II. ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR**

*Document MISSCEO (2008) OJ 1*

2. Le MISSCEO adopte l'ordre du jour de la réunion qui figure à l'annexe II.

## **III. INFORMATION DU SECRETARIAT**

3. Mme GÓMEZ fait une démonstration du nouveau système de recherche d'informations du MISSCEO sur le site Internet sous forme de base de données. Cette recherche peut se faire par rubrique ou par pays sur le site suivant : <http://www.coe.int/MISSCEO>. La base de données a remplacé en 2006 et en 2007 les tableaux comparatifs qui ne sont plus imprimés. Il est prévu d'élaborer des CD-Rom contenant les données MISSCEO.

Les participants se sont montrés très satisfaits de ce système de recherche.

## **IV. INFORMATIONS SUR LE MISSOC ET SUR LES ACTIVITES DE LA COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE**

4. M. Claude EWEN, correspondant du MISSOC pour le Luxembourg, fait une présentation sur : les développements récents au sein du réseau MISSOC ; les nouvelles tendances et activités au niveau de l'Union européenne (UE), en particulier le débat sur la flexicurité et les droits des patients en matière de soins de santé transfrontaliers ; et l'influence du MISSOC sur le MISSCEO. Les participants ont posé des questions sur la définition de flexicurité au niveau de l'UE, une définition commune n'existant pas et sur les soins de santé transfrontaliers.

5. Le texte intégral de l'intervention de M. EWEN est reproduit à l'annexe III.

## **V. BRIEVE DESCRIPTION SUR LA PRESENTATION DES SYSTEMES DE SECURITE SOCIALE**

6. M. Paul SCHOUKENS, coordinateur du contenu de l'édition 2008, propose, pour compléter les tableaux MISSCEO, d'élaborer un texte résumant les principales caractéristiques des régimes de sécurité sociale. Le but serait de pouvoir connaître d'un coup d'œil les caractéristiques fondamentales d'un régime de sécurité sociale en tant que tel : par exemple, savoir si un régime est fondamentalement de type bismarckien ou béverdigien ou quels risques sont traités de manière plutôt bismarckienne ou plutôt béveridgienne ; s'il existe un seul régime pour toutes les catégories professionnelles ou plusieurs régimes. De plus, d'après M. SCHOUKENS, certaines informations font défaut comme les implications juridiques de la Constitution pour la sécurité sociale, la protection juridictionnelle, l'exécution du droit à la sécurité sociale et la protection de la vie privée.

La question discuté était de savoir si le réseau MISSCEO veut combler ces lacunes et ajouter un court texte, en tant qu'annexe aux tableaux par exemple, reprenant ces questions.

7. M. Ali Riza ÖNAY, représentant de la Turquie, fait une présentation du régime turc de sécurité sociale incluant les questions mentionnés par M. SCHOUKENS.

8. Le MISSCEO se montre d'accord d'essayer d'élaborer un texte récapitulatif et il est convenu que M. SCHOUKENS prépare un projet de texte pour commentaires et acceptation finale par le MISSCEO.

## **VI. OBSERVATIONS GÉNÉRALES SUR LA COMPARABILITÉ**

9. M. SCHOUKENS, indique que qualité des tableaux MISSCEO et leur comparabilité s'est bien améliorée par rapport aux années précédentes. Il présente les observations générales suivantes qui se rapportent aux tableaux reçus en 2008:

- Les pays se réfèrent souvent à des montants minimums ou à des concepts comme « salaire minimum », « salaire minimum », la plupart de pays expliquent la signification de ces concepts mais parfois cela manque et il faudrait les décrire ;
- La question se pose de savoir où inclure la « pension sociale », soit dans le tableau VI « Vieillesse » ou dans le tableau XI « Garantie de ressources ». La décision revient au correspondant de chaque pays mais la règle est que si la pension sociale relève du droit à la sécurité sociale, elle soit incluse dans le tableau VI et si elle relève de l'assistance sociale dans le tableau XI ;
- La longueur des réponses est variable. Certains pays fournissent des informations plus détaillées que d'autres. De ce fait et d'après ce qu'il a appelé la « comparabilité négative », si un pays mentionne l'existence de certaines prestations et que l'autre ne le fait pas, on considérera que ces prestations n'existent pas dans le deuxième pays. Cela s'applique notamment aux rubriques suivantes :

« Législation en vigueur » : la règle ce n'est pas de lister chaque loi mais de choisir une loi permettant de remonter et trouver les autres textes.

« Champ d'application » : il faut énumérer seulement les catégories les plus importantes.

Tableau I « Financement », « cotisations des assurés et des employeurs » : certains pays restent assez vagues. Il faut être un peu plus précis sans que cela rallonge trop la réponse.

Tableau II « Soins de santé », « choix du médecin », « participation aux frais médicaux » : le correspondant doit apprécier et présenter ce qui est important pour le ticket modérateur et mentionner l'assurance supplémentaire seulement si elle est utilisée par la majorité de la population.

Tableau VIII « Accidents du travail et maladies professionnelles » : il ne ressort pas toujours clairement si le pays compte avec un régime spécifique en cas d'accident du travail et de maladie professionnelle, il faut préciser qui paie le salaire dans ces cas là.

- Les tableaux concernant les pensions, tableaux V « Invalidité », VI « Vieillesse » et VII « Survivants » : Parfois pour comprendre comment fonctionne la pension de vieillesse, il faut consulter le tableau invalidité : il est préférable de répéter l'information dans le tableau correspondant que de faire des références croisées ;
- Il est vivement conseillé d'éviter des réponses telles que « pas applicable » ou « pas d'information disponible » ;
- Il est aussi conseillé d'améliorer la structure de certaines réponses en mettant sous forme de liste les différentes catégories lorsqu'il y en a ;

10. M. SCHOUKENS fait aussi un commentaire très positif sur la façon dont sont décrits les systèmes de sécurité sociale dans les Etats de type fédéral comme l'Australie, le Canada et la Bosnie et Herzégovine.

11. Les participants ont pris note de ces propositions qui seront incorporées par le Secrétariat dans le guide du correspondant.

12. Dans le cadre de la comparabilité, le MISSCEO a traité la question des différents niveaux de protection (piliers) en cas de vieillesse et décidé de tenir une discussion sur ce sujet lors de la 11<sup>e</sup> réunion du MISSCEO en 2009. Cette discussion devrait porter notamment sur la façon dont les informations concernant le deuxième pilier sont reflétées dans les tableaux et sur les divergences avec les tableaux du MISSOC sur ce point.

## **VII. EXERCICE COMPARATIF**

13. Le but de cet exercice comparatif est d'encourager les correspondants MISSCEO à étudier les tableaux d'un point de vue de lecteur et non d'auteur.

14. Suite à la décision prise lors de la 9<sup>ème</sup> réunion du MISSCEO (Istanbul, 2-3 juillet 2007), les participants avaient été invités, cette année, à lire avant la réunion le tableau VIII (« Accidents du travail et maladies professionnelles ») et l'annexe I concernant la protection sociale des travailleurs indépendants.

15. Pendant la réunion, les correspondants se sont réunis en cinq groupes formés de deux pays pour analyser les tableaux.

16. Les conclusions présentées par les différents groupes peuvent se résumer comme suit :

- Certains pays définissent la notion d'accidents du travail de façon extensive alors que d'autres de façon très sucent ;
- Dans l'un ou l'autre pays manquent certaines références à la législation applicable ;
- Parfois il y a trop de renvois du tableau VIII à d'autres tableaux, ce qui rend la compréhension de celui-ci difficile ;
- Certains pays n'ont pas rempli l'annexe sur les travailleurs indépendants ;
- Certains pays rencontrent de difficultés pour savoir quoi inclure dans l'annexe. Le principe général est si les travailleurs indépendants font partie du régime général, ils doivent être inclus dans les tableaux. L'annexe est prévu pour pouvoir décrire la situation spécifique des travailleurs indépendants.

17. Cet exercice s'est à nouveau avéré très utile et devrait se poursuivre sous cette même forme. Ainsi, pour la 11<sup>ème</sup> réunion en 2009, les correspondants décident d'examiner les tableaux IX (« Prestations familiales») et XI (« Garantie de ressources »).

## **VIII. EVOLUTION DES SYSTEMES NATIONAUX DE PROTECTION SOCIALE. INFORMATION DES CORRESPONDANTS SUR CES EVOLUTIONS**

*Document MISSCEO Info 2007*

18. Les correspondants nationaux de l'Albanie, l'Arménie, la Croatie, la Serbie, « L'ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine », la Turquie et la Fédération de Russie présentent de nombreux faits intéressants intervenus dans leurs systèmes de protection sociale en 2007 et la première moitié de 2008.

19. Deux rapports nationaux décrivant ces développements ont été envoyés au Secrétariat. En vue de l'élaboration d'une publication, il est convenu que les correspondants qui ne l'ont pas encore fait envoient au Secrétariat leurs contributions pour le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2008.

## **IX. PRÉPARATION DE L'ÉDITION 2008**

*Document MISSCEO(2008)3*

20. Les participants examinent les derniers aspects techniques et administratifs de la préparation de l'édition 2007 qui rend compte de l'état de la législation nationale au 1<sup>er</sup> janvier de la même année.

21. Le MISSCEO convient du calendrier suivant :

- a. Les correspondants du MISSCEO qui n'ont pas encore envoyé leurs contributions le feront pour le 15 septembre 2008.
- b. Les correspondants qui ont reçu les commentaires de M. SCHOUKENS enverront leurs contributions révisées au Secrétariat pour le 15 septembre 2008.
- c. La version finale des contributions nationales devrait être prête pour le 31 octobre 2008.
- d. Les données MISSCEO 2008 (version anglaise) seront transférées dans la base de données en novembre 2008.
- e. Les données MISSCEO 2008 seront traduites en français en novembre 2008.
- f. Les données MISSCEO en français seront transférées dans la base en décembre 2008 ou janvier 2009.

## **X. PLANIFICATION DE L'ÉDITION 2009**

*Document MISSCEO(2008)4*

22. Les informations figurant dans les tableaux devraient rendre compte de la situation au 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 2008.

23. Le Secrétariat présente le calendrier ci-après pour la préparation de l'édition 2009 :

- a. Le Secrétariat demandera les contributions nationales en janvier 2009.
- b. Les correspondants du MISSCEO procéderont à la mise à jour de leurs contributions nationales pour le 2 mai 2009.
- c. Les observations sur les contributions nationales devront être prêtes pour le 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2009.

- d. La 11<sup>ème</sup> réunion du MISSCEO se tiendra pendant la première semaine pleine de juillet 2009.

**XI. QUESTIONS DIVERSES**

- 24. Néant.

**XII. DATE DE LA PROCHAINE RÉUNION**

- 25. La 11<sup>ème</sup> réunion du MISSCEO aura lieu la première semaine pleine de juillet 2009. Le lieu de la réunion reste à décider.

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**Annexe II**

**ORDRE DU JOUR**

- I. OUVERTURE DE LA REUNION
- II. ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR
- III. INFORMATION DU SECRETARIAT
- IV. INFORMATION SUR LE MISSOC ET SUR LES ACTIVITES DE LA COMMISSION EUROPEENNE
- V. BRIEVE DESCRIPTION SUR LA PRESENTATION DES SYSTEMES DE SECURITE SOCIALE
- VI. OBSERVATIONS GENERALES SUR LA COMPARABILITE
- VII. EXERCICE COMPARATIF
- VIII. EVOLUTION DES SYSTEMES NATIONAUX DE PROTECTION SOCIALE. INFORMATION DES CORRESPONDANTS SUR CES EVOLUTIONS EN PARTICULIER DES PRINCIPALES REFORMES EN COURS OU ENVISAGEES
- IX. PREPARATION DE L'EDITION 2008
- X. PLANIFICATION DE L'EDITION 2009
- XI. QUESTIONS DIVERSES
- XII. DATE ET LIEU DE LA PROCHAINE REUNION

### Annexe III

#### Discours de Monsieur Claude EWEN lors de la réunion du MISSCEO

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I will divide my intervention in three parts

#### 1. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MISSOC NETWORK

As you know, last year there was a change of the Missoc secretariat: the “Institut für Sozial und Gesellschaftsforschung” (ISG) in Cologne was replaced by “Bernhard Brunhes International” (BBI) based initially in Paris. The main task of the new secretariat was to find its own way without losing the achievements of the old team.

The main priorities for the coming years have been defined as mixture of continuity and innovation.

At the last meeting in Ljubljana in May 2008, the new secretariat made a report about its activities in the first year and then also gave an overview about its medium and long term strategy. I will take up the most important points and summarize the state of affairs in the MISSOC project as it stands now.

The underlying principles of the MISSOC activities are the following:

- balance between continuity and innovation
- boost identity and visibility
- correct understanding of the role of the MISSOC secretariat
- quality control
- partnership with national correspondents
- efficient contact with the European Commission
- complementary team with well qualified staff.

The action performed by the new secretariat during the first year of their contract is really impressive. In order to compose a well balanced team and to activate it, new members of staff were recruited. All proposed experts have been involved in the work and there was a new BBI office set up in Brussels.

The hand-over from the old secretariat had to be done. For this purpose all documents and procedures have been conceived and filed in a way to ensure continuity towards the future.

I will now talk about the three important instruments that are the MISSOC-Tables, the MISSOC-Info and the MISSOC-Analysis

As for the MISSOC-Tables, the actions performed were related to a new database with three priorities

- compatibility with the European community database
- a normalized database
- user-friendly lay-out.

As to the actions planned, the MISSOC-Tables updated on 1/1/2008 will be published in a database and PDF format. For the update on 1/7/2008 a review of table XII is planned, as well as further improvements of the function of the database, for instance an automatic insertion process, an auto-distillation of actualized files and a comparison of data over time.

As for the MISSOC-Info, the actions performed for the preparation of MISSOC-Info I about the evolution in national legislation has well progressed. The country reports have been translated and a draft synoptic report has been presented at the Ljubljana meeting in May.

The MISSOC-Info II will deal with family benefits and a draft questionnaire was drawn up. Meanwhile all the national correspondents have received the final version of the questionnaire and the dead-line for delivering their report is the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2008.

The secretariat was very pleased about the good responsiveness of national correspondents and will try to give them in the future more guidance on template and content of MISSOC-Info. It is important to clarify the role of the secretariat in reviewing the contributions from national correspondents and to achieve coordination of MISSOC-Info's with other ongoing initiatives of the European Commission.

As for the MISSOC-Analysis it has to be pointed out that this is a new product. In the beginning consultations took place between the secretariat and the European Commission in order to launch new initiatives in the field of analysis. The identified theme was flexicurity. A draft MISSOC-Analysis was prepared for and discussed at the Ljubljana meeting. The methodology and final outcome of this new product will be subject to in-depth evaluation. It is a demonstration on how to make use of information contained in the MISSOC-Tables. The major responsibility lies on the MISSOC secretariat, thus it is a limited workload for the national correspondents. It is investigated how to make a link between MISSOC-Analysis and MISSOC-Info's in the future.

I will come back to the theme of flexicurity which was chosen as first subject of this new MISSOC product. Furthermore in the third part of my intervention where I will speak about influences of the MISSOC network on the MISSCEO network, we can discuss if creating also a MISSCEO-Analysis instrument, would be a good idea.

Another very important element among the tasks of the new secretariat, which was highlighted at the Ljubljana meeting, is the new communication policy. In this field, a communication strategy has been developed, a MISSOC home-style designed, the website extended to different languages, a MISSOC brochure presented and the concept of a MISSOC newsletter is in discussion. The new secretariat wishes to have more pro-active networking and a better dissemination of information in the coming years.

The overall conclusions presented at the Ljubljana meeting are the following:

The time schedule and the work plan initially fixed for the first year of activity was quite well respected, but the new MISSOC secretariat is still gathering experience and is conscious that inception requires quite substantially time, energy and resources. A better understanding of MISSOC mechanisms, context, role of national correspondents and of the European Commission is of importance for the secretariat which, as a matter of priority, intends to increase effectiveness and speeding up.

The responsive attitude of national correspondents was particularly underlined. It is remarkable that 100% of table updates and country reports were sent in, as well as an overall respect of deadlines and instructions by the national correspondents was noted.

The new secretariat will try to introduce innovations and improvements over the four coming years and its strategy will be based on three principles:

- balance with continuity
- participatory approach
- availability of resource.

On the other hand the secretariat is conscious that coherence and comparability can still be improved in the future, essentially for two points:

- development of glossary (for the use of the secretariat, external translators and national correspondents)
- more detailed guidelines and refined templates.

The secretariat is also conscious about the fact that translations are critical for the quality of final products and that's why the following measures have been taken:

- in-house native language speakers in secretariat
- proofreading by native language speaking experts
- structural partnership with a translation agency.

Finally it is evident to say that close liaison with the European Commission offers advantages. That's why organization of ad-hoc meetings whenever needed will be arranged.

Consultations with various units within DG EMPL is important in order to increase the relevance and the profile of MISSOC within European Commission.

It is a fact that the MISSOC secretariat can count on a huge amount of human and material resources and this has always been an important advantage in comparison with the functioning of your MISSCEO network.

## **2. NEW TRENDS AND ACTIVITIES ON THE EUROPEAN UNION LEVEL**

### **a) Discussion about flexicurity**

Originally conceived as a Dutch or Danish phenomena combining flexible employment protection legislation with a high level of social security benefits, flexicurity has now become a leading concept in the field of European social policy. Current social policy debates around flexicurity address the challenge of reconciling adequate and efficient social security provision, on the one hand, with structural changes that demand more flexible and deregulated labour markets, on the other hand. The concept of flexicurity reflects the idea that flexibility and security are not contradictory, but can in many situations be mutually supportive.

In this sense, flexicurity is needed to achieve the objectives of the renewed Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs which aims at combining economic and employment growth with greater social cohesion. This means in particular more and better jobs, while modernizing the European social model at the same time. It involves the deliberate combination of flexible and reliable contractual arrangements, comprehensive lifelong learning strategies, effective active labour market policies and modern adequate and sustainable social protection systems. Modern social security systems should provide adequate income support, encourage employment and facilitate labour market mobility and secure transitions from job to job. This includes broad coverage of social protection provisions that help people combine work with private and family responsibilities. The debate on flexicurity deals therefore with the issue of a further interconnection between work and welfare issues on the so-called activating welfare state.

However, if the European Union is to make full use of its potential of human resources, the economic, the employment and the social developments must go hand in hand. In order to help the Member States in the process of finding ways to achieve this, the guidelines for growth and jobs indicate pathways upon which Member States can build their policies. These policies should include active inclusion policies that target increasing labour supply at the same time as strengthening society's cohesion.

Within this context, Member States should take measures in order to remove barriers to the labour market, for example, by ensuring effective job search assistance as well as access to vocational training and other active labour market measures. Member states should also guarantee available and affordable social services and provide adequate levels of minimum resources to all. This type of measure should be complemented by other strategies to ensure that taking up work pays. Unemployment, poverty and inactivity traps should be removed. In addition, Member States should develop new sources of jobs in response to collective needs, for example through the expansion of the social economy in order to create a supportive work environment for vulnerable groups by providing services for individuals or local businesses which are not met by the market economy.

In developing and implementing their policies based on this flexicurity strategy, Member States should pay special attention to promote the active inclusion of young and older people as well as disadvantaged groups such as the low-skilled, people with disabilities, immigrants and ethnic minorities. As far as the last three groups are concerned, Member States should intensify their actions to combat discrimination.

**b) Proposal for a community framework on the application of patients rights in cross-border healthcare**

Issues relating to patients rights in cross-border healthcare have been discussed in various fora and for a long time at the European Community level. These discussions go back to the creation of a high level group which task was to reflect on patient mobility and healthcare developments in the European Union in 2003. In this reflection process, the Commission brought together health ministers from across the Union together with representatives of patients, professionals, providers and purchasers of healthcare and the European Parliament. They agreed to a wide-ranging report which identified the need to improve legal certainty in this area.

Following this, the Commission's proposal for a directive on services in the internal market in 2004 included provisions codifying the rulings of the Court of Justice in applying free movement principles to health services. This approach, however, was not accepted by Parliament and Council, and the final text of this directive excluded health services from its scope whilst stating that "it is important to address this issue in another Community legal instrument in order to achieve greater legal certainty and clarity".

In 2006-2007, the Commission held, on the basis of a communication, a broad public consultation regarding community action on health services; the results of which have provided a solid basis for developing and shaping the new framework. As part of that consultation, the European Parliament and the Council urged the Commission to come up with appropriate proposals to address the existing uncertainty in the field of patients rights in cross border health care.

On the basis of this public consultation and in order to fulfill the Commission's commitment given to the other institutions, the Commission has been developing a draft proposal for a directive on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare and an accompanying communication. Since January 2008 internal discussions as well as further contacts with stakeholders have taken place and these have enabled the Commission services to determine how to bring more precision and clarity to some aspects of the implementation of the European Court of Justice case law. The proposal has been finalized and has been adopted by the college of commissioners as part of the broader package of social measures proposed by the Commission last week.

This theme about patients rights in cross border health care will be one of the high lights in the discussion in the social field that will take place after the summer break.

### **3. INFLUENCE OF THE MISSOC NETWORK TO MISSCEO**

In the discussion about the influence that the MISSOC network had in the past on your work in the MISSCEO network and in order to give a response to the question if this influence should go on in the future, I want to outline two subjects that seems very important to me.

#### **a) New instrument called MISSOC – Analysis**

As I told you in the first part of my intervention, the MISSOC-Analysis is a new output of the MISSOC network and was presented for the first time at the Ljubljana meeting in May 2008. This document intends to provide an analytical overview of significant developments in selected fields of social protection and to explore how these developments relate to changes in social protection legislation over time. In addition to providing accurate information, the MISSOC-Analysis should also contribute to the activities within the Open Method of Coordination (OMC) in the field of social protection and inclusion.

The MISSOC-Analysis document is based on information found in the MISSOC tables, and is, as such, an exercise about how these regular updates of social security legislation can be used in a more policy-oriented way. The data from the MISSOC tables are described and contextualised against the background of the theoretical policy framework set by key documents in the field of European social policy. The MISSOC-Analysis also intends to be a concrete instrument for policy-making by linking overall developments and mechanisms to existing practices in the participating countries. The first MISSOC-Analysis looks to the prevailing context and to the developments that took place between 2004 and today in the field of the selected theme: flexicurity.

The experts from the MISSOC secretariat have drafted a paper in consultation with the European Commission and some national correspondents from countries that have participated in the exercise. Prof. Yves Jorens, in his quality as scientific mentor in the MISSOC secretariat, took leading responsibility in developing this document.

I am aware of the fact that it is much easier to create and develop such new instruments for a secretariat working with numerous experts and collaborators as it is the case for MISSOC. This cannot be said for the Council of Europe which is confronted to a lack of human resources. But nevertheless the question is put forward if you should also try to do a MISSCEO-Analysis in the framework of your network.

#### **b) Revision of table XII about long term care**

During the meeting in Ljubljana the MISSOC group had a very interesting debate about the opportunity and the necessity of reforming table XII about long term care.

You are surely aware that some countries are speaking about “dependency”, but at the european level the term mostly used is “long term care”.

The question if it is useful to put information in the tables about the benefits provided to persons who in their daily life need the help of a third party has been discussed at length. At the beginning of this discussion, a certain number of countries opposed the idea to put information about long term care into the tables, arguing that these kinds of benefits are not part of social security, and thus do not have their place in the MISSOC-tables.

In 2000, in the famous Molenaar case, the Court of justice of the European Community decided that the German “Pfegeversicherung” (long term care insurance) does fall in the field of social security and that the coordination rules foreseen by regulation 1408/71, in particular under the

chapter about health care benefits, have to be applied. This meant for MISSOC that a small box in the table II about of health care was created and reserved for these long term care benefits.

This was not a satisfactory situation because the legal basis for those benefits differ in the various countries. You can find different conceptions for these long term care benefits. Some countries put those benefits in the field of health care, other countries consider them as part of pensions because a supplement is granted, other countries organize a system based on social assistance by way of help given by local authorities, and finally a few countries have introduced a special insurance scheme for dependency.

Starting from this point, you can easily understand that the MISSOC correspondents agreed at that time to make a new table about this matter. But you can believe me that it was no easy task to fill in all those different forms of legislation in one only table.

This is the explanation why the actual table XII is not very detailed and presents a lot of unsatisfactory points. That's why the MISSOC secretariat launched the discussion in Ljubljana whether it would be a good thing to reform and modernize this table XII. As I told you, we had a very good and fruitful discussion and an open minded debate during the meeting. The conclusion was that there is a clear interest to change the structure of table XII. The MISSOC secretariat has taken note of all the comments given and will develop its ideas. It will come out with proposals for the next MISSOC meeting. It can be expected that final decision will be taken at the next meeting in october in Paris.

Of course, if the MISSOC network decides to change table XII, this would mean for you as MISSCEO network to accept this changes too, just following the same lines as in the past, in maintaining a parallelism between the MISSOC tables and those of MISSCEO.