

## **Contribution on behalf of the Governmental Committee regarding the objectives and possible outcomes of the High-level Conference with a view to strengthening the Council of Europe's social rights framework**

The Governmental Committee, reaffirming its unwavering commitment to the protection, implementation and promotion of the European Social Charter, recognizes the need to enhance the effectiveness, coherence, precision and visibility of its actions, so that it can better support Member States and the Council of Europe to pursue the advancement of social rights.

Recognizing the importance of translating commitments into tangible progress, the Governmental Committee endeavours to strengthen its follow-up to the European Social Charter system, providing targeted support and technical guidance to States in meeting their obligations under the Charter. Recommendations in that respect will be tailored to each national context, thus facilitating implementation. The Governmental Committee will promote the dissemination of conclusions and other relevant findings and recommendations of the ECSR, such as those contained in the reviews within the framework of the ad hoc reports procedure, encouraging that they are taken into account when shaping legislative, policy, and institutional reforms at the national level.

Support for the Member States should go beyond the debate and possible proposal of a recommendation in the context of the follow-up to States' commitments, and the Governmental Committee will strive to put its expertise into use, introducing peer-learning, thematic discussions and exchanges of best practices to identify persistent challenges and promote constructive dialogue on solutions.

To further enhance its added value as a platform for discussion and exchange among States, the Governmental Committee will support inclusion of relevant voices in its discussions, particularly in light of contemporary challenges, such as digital transformation, climate change, environmental degradation and demographic shifts. It will further deepen its engagement with governments, social partners, parliaments, other Council of Europe monitoring bodies and institutions. It will also continue to foster constructive dialogue with the European Committee of Social Rights in all areas through which it can assist States more effectively in fulfilling their commitments under the Charter and advance the practical enjoyment of social rights.

Through its actions, the Governmental Committee reaffirms its resolve to contribute to a stronger, more cohesive, and socially just Europe, in which the rights guaranteed by the European Social Charter are effectively implemented and enjoyed in law and practice.