

SMEs – Information and Consultation – Innovative Challenges

The completion of the Project “SMEs – Information and Consultation – Innovative Challenges” was held in Lisbon on the 23/24 September. The Conference was opened by the Portuguese Labour Minister and was attended by representatives of some 17 Countries.

It was unanimously agreed by all attendees that:-

- 1) Raising awareness on employees’ Information and Consultation among social partners is most important
- 2) Employees’ Information and Consultation can be a tool for the introduction and development of other instruments considered as social dialogue instruments
- 3) Employees’ Information and Consultation is considered as an essential factor for improvement of industrial relations and contributing to development of SMEs by creating a favourable climate for growth, competitiveness, innovation and employment
- 4) Information and Consultation, as defined in the European Directives, are relevant instruments for, and towards, the development of social relations at company, branch, national and European level and therefore should be enhanced.