

Progress report – November 2013

In the month of November stakeholders continued to develop the work related to The Supply Chain Initiative. Work is on-going in several areas:

- 9 companies registered to The Supply Chain Initiative; their names can be found here: <http://www.supplychaininitiative.eu/registry>. Many more registrations are expected by the end of the year and in Q1 2014 once companies have had time to implement the commitments set out in their letter of intent;
- So far 87 companies/groups from across the entire EU have expressed their intention to register. Taking into account the subsidiaries of international groups, this amounts to 464 operating companies; the stakeholders associations are doing individual follow-up with companies that have sent letters of intent;
- The website www.supplychaininitiative.eu is regularly updated; the FAQ has been reedited to answer questions the members have been asked by interested companies;
- Several companies have already purchased the e-learning tool; the French and German versions are now ready; the Spanish, Italian and Polish versions will be shortly available;
- The self-assessment tools are being promoted by the members;
- Relations with national platforms and compatibility with national schemes are being assessed and further developed; the stakeholders are encouraging and monitoring the set-up of national dialogue platforms; an exchange with the Belgian stakeholders is foreseen early 2014;
- A mapping of arbitration and mediation points in EU Member States is being developed; the list will be made available on the website;
- The two main documents of the initiative – the Principles of Good Practice and the Framework for implementation – have been translated in Croatian in order to facilitate access to Croatian members;

- The development of the annual survey is on-going: the Governance Group is in contact with several service providers with the view to select the most appropriate one;
- As part of awareness-raising, the stakeholders are regularly liaising with the media, in particular to inform them upon request;
- Progress check against initial roadmap: on target. Discussion is on-going on the Initiative's perspectives in 2014;
- The Governance Group elected Else Groen, Director General of Independent Retail Europe, as the new retail co-Chair, replacing Rodrigo Gouveia.

During this time the signatory organisations have maintained the dialogue with Copa-Cogeca which has been invited as an observer to the Governance Group meetings.