



Flash report ACVT meeting of 3 and 4 December 2018

The ACVT, composed of representatives of Governments and Social Partners from MS, EFTA and candidate countries, met on **3 and 4 December 2018**.

1. Opinion on the future of Vocational Education and Training Post-2020

The Committee adopted an **Opinion on the future of Vocational Education and Training Post-2020**. The Opinion sets:

- the **building blocks of future fit vocational education and training** in the context of the overall societal and economic trends.
- **three key objectives** to achieve this vision related to the a) **content of VET**, b) **provision of VET** and c) **governance of VET systems**.
- stakeholders views on the **main parameters of the future European cooperation** in VET possible actions to be carried out at European level.

The Opinion stresses the dual objectives of VET for fostering social inclusion and excellence, the role of VET in supporting acquisition of job specific and transversal skills, and calls for a better balancing of investment and funding between initial and continuing VET.

The Opinion is the result of extensive consultation with both Directors General for VT and ACVT as well as with a wider VET community in Europe since 2017. It builds on the available evidence, notably from the Commission, CEDEFOP and the ETF and other sources.

2. Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence

The Commission presented this new initiative, which received positive feed-back. ACVT members can, if interested, be involved in a study that will map out existing examples of such centres or similar initiatives.

3. European Alliance for Apprenticeships

The Commission provided an update on the new pledges and the 5 years celebrations and announced the launch of the **Apprenticeships Support Services**. The set up of these services will benefit from the steer of the stakeholders, through the ACVT Bureau and additional representatives of the members of the Alliance (VET providers, intermediary bodies, apprentices etc.). Meetings will be organised back to back to ACVT Bureau meetings.

4. Upskilling Pathways Recommendation and future of Adult Learning

The Commission provided an overview of the preliminary findings of the stocktaking exercise and outlined the steps to the adoption of the Staff Working Document. Discussions highlighted the following:

- Social partners recalled that they are providers of tailored training and called to be more involved in the implementation
- sustainability of financing in light of heavy reliance on ESF funding should be addressed

- building on the whole of government approach implemented through the National skills Strategies, Commission could provide the platform for bringing together at national level all stakeholders
- cost-sharing mechanisms, supporting companies to train their staff to use digital technologies were highlighted as topics with high interest for mutual learning.

Possible priorities for the **future policy agenda in Adult learning** were discussed based on a discussion paper and the comments from the on-line survey of ACVT members. The first feedback concerned the need for a broad approach in term of target groups (everybody should undertake adult learning) but at the same time a more focused approach based on the needs of specific follow up actions. The ACVT members can still respond to the on-line survey which will be open **until 18 December** (available at https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EAAL_and_reflection_on_future).

5. Erasmus +

The recently published **Calls of Erasmus+** were presented together with key statistics on VET mobility and VET and AL strategic partnerships. **A webinar** on Sector Skills Alliances (which includes pilot call on the Platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence') will take place on **6 December at 14h** (link for registration to be found at this page https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/events/info-session-2019_en).

6. ECVET and EQAVET

The Commission presented the draft final findings and conclusions of the **study on the ECVET and EQAVET**. The study contains also proposals on the options for the future developments of the tools. As a follow-up to the ACVT Opinion, **a call for experts** among the ACVT members will be launched to form an **ad-hoc ACVT group** to discuss proposals on the future developments of the tools with a view to increase synergies between ECVET and EQAVET and other lifelong learning instruments. The group is expected to report back at the next ACVT meeting **in June 2019**.

Other agenda items included: Annual Growth Survey, results of ET2020 Working groups in VET and AL (presented by HU and NL governmental representatives), the European Vocational Skills Week and benchmarks and indicators in VET and AL. The **Romanian Presidency** presented their priorities for the first semester of 2019 and the main events related to VET (DGVT on 17-18 March and AL Conference on 6-7 June).

Follow up:

- **Final version of the Opinion** to be shared with ACVT and circulated to other EU bodies (ESF Committee, Education Committee, Committee of Regions, European Economic and Social Committee, etc.)
- ACVT members to signal their interest to be involved in the mapping study on the centres of vocational excellence
- ACVT members to participate in the survey on the priorities on Adult learning
- Additional presentations to be uploaded in circabc
- Share with ACVT the position paper by the expert group of EU Associations of VET providers on the future of VET
- Minutes of the ACVT and DGVT to be shared between the two bodies for improving communication
- Launch **the call for expression** of interest to participate in the ad-hoc ACVT expert group

The **next meeting** of the ACVT will take place on **4 and 5 June 2019**.