Programme

“Emerging challenges in the impact of taxes on pensions”
What happens in the EU today and what developments are likely in the future?

With the participation of the European Social Observatory (OSE)
Taking stock of national practices and provide context to the European Debate

25 February, 2013

Venue: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) – Plenary Room/JDE
Rue Belliard 99 – 1040 Brussels

09h30 Registration of participants

Morning session (Direct tax)

10h00 to 10h15 Welcome and introduction:
  • Guy Morel, President of the European Association of Professional Pension Schemes, EurelPro aisbl
  • Xavier Verboven, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Group II

10h15 to 11h00 “The role of taxation in pensions – actual national practices”
  • Markus Sailer, Economist, Department for Research and Development, German Federal Pension Insurance
  • Des O’Leary, Principal officer, Fiscal Policy Division, Ministry of Finance, Irish EU presidency

11h00 to 11h20 KEY NOTE SPEECH: “A Follow up to the white paper - the concept of efficient social spending in pensions”
  • László Andor, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

11h20 to 11h40 “The cost-effectiveness of pensions - giving context to the European debate” – joint research by OSE and EurelPro
  • David Natali, European Social Observatory, OSE

11h40 to 12h00 “OECD/EU project on taxation, financial incentives and retirement savings”
Pablo Antolin-Nicolàs, Principal Economist, Financial Affairs Division, OECD

12h00 to 13h00 “The impact of tax rules on the cost-effectiveness of pensions”

- Stakeholders’ views:
  - ESIP - Franz Terwey, President
  - PENSIONS EUROPE - Matti Leppälä, Secretary General
  - EURELPRO - Andrea Camporese, Vice-President

- European Commission’s views and initiatives
  - Fritz von Nordheim-Nielsen, European Commission, DGEMPL

13h00 to 13h30 Q & A

13h30 to 15h00 LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon session (Indirect tax)

15h00 to 15h30 “FTT – where is it now?”

- Bogdan Tasnadi, European Commission, DG TAXUD

15h30 to 16h15 “VAT, an invisible cost not to be overlooked”

- Michel Lambion, Ernst & Young Luxembourg

16h15 to 16h45 “VAT treatment of pension funds (special investment funds) - questions before the Court of Justice of the EU”

- Richard Lyal, European Commission, Legal Service

16h45 to 17h15 “VAT and activities in the public interest – European Commission’s plans for modernisation”

- Patrice Pillet and Ingmar Beuth, European Commission, DG TAXUD

17h15 to 17h50 Q & A

17h50 to 18h00 Closing statements

Interpretation provided in English, French and Italian