Raise Awareness Meeting

Poverty, work-family balance and intergenerational solidarity

convened as part of preparations for the Twentieth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family, 2014

Hosted by
EUROPEAN UNION

5 June 2012
9:30-1:00

Room JDE 51

Committee of the Regions
Family-oriented strategies for ensuring work-family balance

Raise Awareness Meeting
5th June 2012
Lieve Fransen, DG EMPL
Over 10% of European women tied to house-work

Source: Eurostat, labour force survey
... also among older people

Population aged 55-64 inactive because of family reasons, 2010, in %

Source: Eurostat, labour force survey
Work affects family affects work

2nd European Quality of Life Survey (Eurofound, 2007)

European workers find it:

Hard to fulfil family responsibilities (30% every month, 10% every week)

Hard to focus on work because of family responsibilities (8% every month, 3% every week)

Too tired from working to do household chores (50% every month, 20% every week)
Ageing population: Percentage of older EU population

Source: Eurostat
In order to get out of the crisis the full focus must be on creating JOBS

- The Europe 2020 employment rate of 75% for 20-65 by 2020 is extremely ambitious.

- It will require employment growth twice as high as during the good years of 2002-2008.

- The employment rate for prime aged (25-50) men is already very high.

- Women are the group with the largest potential for growth
Poverty in families
Lone-parents and large families at risk

Source: Eurostat, statistics on income and living conditions
Childcare for reconciliation
children aged 0-2 in childcare (%) and women employment

Percentage of children aged 0-2 in childcare, 2009

Source: Eurostat, labour force survey and statistics on income and living conditions
2007 Communication
“Promoting solidarity between the generations”

European Alliance for Families:
“...a platform for exchanges and knowledge concerning pro-family policies and best practices in the Member States, with a view to meeting the challenges of demographic change.”