Conference

Diversity and Multilingualism in Early Childhood Education and Care

Luxembourg, 10 and 11 September 2015

Programme
**WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2015 – ARRIVALS**

Arrival of participants

**THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2015 – DAY 1**

*Moderators:* Claude Sevenig, Manuel Achten (Luxembourg)

*Conference Venue:* Chamber of Commerce, Luxembourg-Kirchberg

*Languages:* Plenary sessions: DE, EN, FR  
Working sessions: EN

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.20</td>
<td>Shuttle Hotel Ibis Airport to the Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Shuttle Hotel Parc Plaza/Bellevue to the Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>8.30</td>
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<td>9.00 to 9.30</td>
<td>Welcome and registration of participants at the Chamber of Commerce</td>
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| 9.30 to 10.00 | **Opening**  
Welcoming addresses and introduction                                                   |
|       | Claude Meisch, Minister of Education, Children and Youth (Luxembourg)                   |
|       | Corinne Cahen, Minister for Family Affairs and Integration (Luxembourg)                 |
|       | Tibor Navracsics – EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport              |
| 10.00 to 10.45 | **Key-note speech**  
Bildung durch Beteiligung (Learning through Participation)                               |
|       | Gerd E. Schäfer, Professor for Early Childhood Education at the University of the Arts,  |
|       | Bremen (Germany)                                                                       |
| 10.45 to 11.05 | **Coffee break**                                                                         |
| 11.05 to 11.50 | **Key-note speech**  
Embracing Linguistic Diversity: Linguistic and Pedagogical Perspectives for Early Childhood Education in Luxembourg |
|       | Adelheid Hu, Professor of Education at the University of Luxembourg                      |
| 11.50 to 12.35 | **Key-note speech**  
Quality in contexts of diversity: issues of identity, equality, difference and social cohesion |
|       | Michel Vandenbroeck, Professor in Family Pedagogy at the Department of Social Work and  |
|       | Social Pedagogy of the Ghent University (Belgium)                                       |
| 12.35 to 13.00 | **Key-note speech**  
The proposal for a quality framework on ECEC as a practical tool to develop high-quality ECEC systems |
|       | Nora Milotay, Policy officer for European policy cooperation within the field of early  |
|       | childhood education and care at the Directorate-General for Education and Culture (European Commission) |
| 13.00 to 13.15 | **Artistic performance by children**                                                     |
| 13.15 to 13.20 | **Introduction to the workshops**                                                       |
13.20 to 14.30  Lunch

14.30 to 17.15  **Parallel working sessions**
- **Curriculum** – Embracing linguistic, cultural and social diversity by means of a curriculum framework.
- **Access** – Involving parents, respecting cultures
- **Workforce** – Preparing staff to fulfil their professional role in multilingual and multicultural contexts
- **Governance and funding** – Rethinking ECEC structures and services to ensure equal opportunities
- **Monitoring and evaluation** – Assessment of impact and the impact of assessment

*(a 15mn coffee break can be taken by each workshop between 15.15 and 16.00)*

17.15 to 18.30  Moderators and rapporteurs: preparation of workshop conclusions

17.20  Departure to the hotels / Free time

18.30  Shuttle from the hotels to the Gala dinner

19.30 to 22.00  Gala dinner and boat trip on the Moselle river (dress code: casual)

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**FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2015 – DAY 2**

8.30  Shuttle Hotel Ibis Airport to the Chamber of Commerce
8.30  Shuttle Hotel Parc Plaza/Bellevue to the Chamber of Commerce
8.40  Shuttle Hotel Victor Hugo to the Chamber of Commerce

9.30 to 10.30  **Presentation of the key messages from the workshops**

10.30 to 11.30  **Panel discussion**

*Reflections on the key messages and the way forward*

Participants:
- Sophie Beernaerts (European Commission, Unit “School and educators; multilingualism”)
- Yuri Belfali (OECD, Directorate for Education and Skills)
- Maresa Duignan (Department of Education and Skills, Ireland)
- Stig Lund (European Trade Union Committee for Education – ETUCE)
- Ingelore Oomen-Welke (University of Education Freiburg, Germany)
- Christina Stringher (INVALSI - National Institute for the Educational Evaluation of Instruction and Training, Italy)
- Johannes Theiner (European Parents Association – EPA)

Moderator:  Nico Meisch, Ministry of Education, Children and Youth, Luxembourg

11.30 to 12.00  **Closing speech**

*Perspectives for the development of ECEC in Europe*

Michael Sebastian Honig, Professor of Social Work at the University of Luxembourg

12.00 to 14.00  Farewell and closing lunch

14.00 to 16.30  Optional: Departure for the visits of ECEC settings in Luxembourg