

**International Safety &
Health Construction Co-
ordinators Organisation**
c/o Forum da Vinci,
4-6 Bd. Grande Duchesse
Charlotte,
L-1330 LUXEMBOURG

Dr. R. Obermaier | Baurenhof 24 | A-6632 Ehrwald / Tirol

press information

www.ishcco.org
info@ishcco.org

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press information international

The presidents of two European associations sign the cooperation agreement on health and safety in the European construction industry in Cyprus on 26 May 2023.

Nicosia, London/Athens, Luxembourg

Dipl. Ing. Andreas Brander, Innsbruck, ECCE President, and Reinhard Obermaier, Ehrwald, ISHCCO President, signed an agreement between their two international associations on 26 May in Nicosia on future joint work to improve safety and health in the construction industry.

The ceremonial signing of the cooperation agreement between the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE European Council of Civil Engineers, London/Athen) and the International Safety and Health Construction Coordinators Organisation (ISHCCO International Safety and Health Construction Coordinators Organisation, Luxemburg) took place during the annual general meeting of ECCE. This preceded and was announced at the 8th International Conference "Construction Industry Safety and Health" held on 26 and 27 May at the Hilton Nicosia Hotel - www.COSH.cy.

Both European associations represent professions that occupy important functions in the construction industry: Civil Engineers and Construction Coordinators, the national designation of the latter in Austria according to BauKG.

The presidents of both associations, together with the other experts at the conference, referred to the particularly high health risks in the construction industry. With the increased cooperation of all participants, the efforts of "Vision Zero", the international zero accidents campaign, are underlined. The joint efforts and the current measures presented and discussed at the conference help to achieve further improvements in safety and health protection for workers in the construction sector.

Dr. Reinhard Obermaier Ing. Andreas Brandner
President of ISHCCO President of ECCE

Attachment: pictorial documentation:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1 Introduction

Representatives from the International Safety and Health Construction Coordinators Organisation (ISHCCO) and the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) have been in discussion about potential collaborations on projects aligned with each organisation's aims and objectives. Further to these discussions, both organisations have agreed to work together and help nurture a mutually supportive relationship.

Both organisations would like to exchange ideas and viewpoints on a range of subjects, including potential areas for future bilateral co-operation. Both organisations hope this relationship will have an important and positive influence on developing a culture of prevention related to occupational safety and health (OSH) in Europe and globally.

2 Main Aims and Objectives

2.1 Aims of ISHCCO

ISHCCO represents the community of Safety and Health Construction Coordinators (SHCC). ISHCCO acts as the international umbrella association of the European national associations of SHCC. The Safety and Health Construction Coordinators are dedicated to coordinate the application of the inherent principles of occupational safety at temporary, mobile construction sites in particular according to the COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 92/57/EEC "on the implementation of minimum safety and health requirements at temporary or mobile constructions sites".

ISHCCO works to enhance the international network of Safety and Health Construction Coordinators to ensure a better level of protection of the safety and health of workers and particularly to guarantee the safety and health of workers at temporary or mobile construction sites according to the task defined in the CD92/57/EEC and its national transpositions.

According to the statutes ISHCCO's purpose – in compliance with the spirit of subsidiarity – is to help the Safety and Health Co-ordinators of Europe, through its National Member Associations, by giving them the opportunity to improve their career development, to complete their training and to develop their scientific capacities, and in particular:



3 Scope for cooperation between European Council of Civil Engineers and ISHCCO

3.1 Collaboration in the field of OSH

The collaboration shall encourage activities in the field of OSH on a national, European and worldwide level.

- Share information, experience and research findings on the principles, policy and practice of education and training in OSH
- Promote and facilitate the integration of high standards of competences in OSH.
- Support the dissemination and implementation of effective approaches and tools to improve OSH.
- Cooperate in developing proposals / strategies at both political and scientific levels, where this meets the objectives of both parties
- Consult each other over relevant issues of interest, with a view to maintaining professional standards in OSH and avoiding duplication of effort

3.2 Communication internal and external

- Each party to make available to the other their respective journals, magazines and other publications free of charge, or at preferential rates
- Each party to allow the other to use published material for which they hold copyright without further permission, but with due acknowledgements
- Each party to promote and facilitate the sharing of good practice and tools for companies, public administration and educational institutions across Europe and globally.
- The parties enable each other to display the collaboration verbal and by the use of their logos.

3.3 Collaboration in events and meetings

- Keep each other duly informed of relevant meetings, events and activities
- Invite key staff and members to speak or take part in, as appropriate, meetings, events and activities
- Consider joint meetings, events and activities as appropriate
- Possibility of elaborating and/or participating in EU funded proposals in OSH
- Joint preparation and delivery of training modules in OSH

Both organisations will endeavour to cooperate, wherever possible, on any issues relevant to education and training in OSH at a European level and globally.

Nicosia 26th May 2023

Dr. Reinhard Obermaier
President of ISHCCO

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Dipl.-Ing. Andreas Bräuder
President of ECCE

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