



***PRESS RELEASE
EMCEF CONGRESS
8 – 10 JUNE 2004 STOCKHOLM***

From 8 to 10 June 2004, the European Mine, Chemical and Energy Workers' Federation (EMCEF) holds its 3rd Congress, in Scandic InfraCity, Kanalvägen 10, Upplands Väsby upon an invitation by the Swedish affiliates of EMCEF. At this event, over 260 participants from 90 member organisations in 30 European countries participate. Furthermore, various guest from other European institutions and other International and European Trade Union organisations will attend the Congress.

Mr **Hans Karlsson**, Swedish Minister for Employment, Mr **Bernhard Jansen**, Director of DG Employment and Social Affairs of the EU-Commission, Mrs **Wanja Lundby-Wedin**, President of LO Sweden, Mr Tore Andersson, CEO of Folksam, and other guest speakers will address the Congress participants. Mr **Hubertus Schmoldt**, President of EMCEF, will chair the meeting.

This Congress is an important event for our member organisations in order to evaluate EMCEF's activities of the last four years and to discuss its future policies and strategies in the EMCEF-related sectors. Major items will be a report of the EMCEF-Secretariat on activities and policies of EMCEF over the last four years and a report on the future structures and orientations of EMCEF, which is presented by the Secretary General Mr **Reinhard Reibsch**.

A main focus of Congress is put on EMCEF's activities regarding policies and developments in the European Union - in particular in the light of the enlargement of the EU. This Enlargement is of special importance to EMCEF and its activities and policies, as it holds a high number of member organisations in the new EU-countries, which will face great challenges, opportunities and expectations regarding social conditions and employment linked to the ongoing restructuring and transition processes.

Another main focus of Congress lies on the intended reform of the internal structures and policies of EMCEF, which is to be approved by Congress. This will lead to new, modernized structures of EMCEF's committees and decision-taking bodies and thus, to the adjustment of EMCEF to the developments in policies and requirements, also to Trade Unions, on European level, which have taken place over the last years.

For further details, please check EMCEF's website on: www.emcef.org or contact the EMCEF-Secretariat at: info@emcef.org; Tel: +32 2 626 21 80.

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