

**CIETT WELCOMES THE G20 LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT MINISTERS'
RECOMMENDATIONS AND CALLS FOR ROLE OF AGENCY WORK INDUSTRY TO BE
RECOGNISED BY POLICY MAKERS**

Brussels 21 May 2010. Ciett welcomes the recommendations put forward by the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers at their meeting held on 20-21 April, and calls on policy makers meeting at the G20 summit in June to recognise the role that the agency work industry can play in boosting employment and producing a better functioning labour market.

Ciett agrees with the G20 Ministers on the need to strengthen active labour market policies, provide training and employment services for the unemployed, prevent people from becoming detached from the labour market, focus on skills development, ensure better anticipation and matching of skills to jobs, and support labour mobility to help economies adjust to structural change.

The private employment agency industry is ideally positioned to support the G20's important recommendations. *"Keeping people in touch with the jobs market is central to our work. The sector supports workers by providing them with vocational training to ensure that their skills are in line with market demand. Agencies also work constantly on behalf of their workers to secure new employment contracts,"* stated Denis Pennel, Managing Director of Ciett.

Moreover, private employment agencies increase transparency in the labour market by acting as an economic indicator and carrying out regular research into labour market trends. The sector efficiently and effectively matches supply and demand using skill assessment tools and its real time knowledge of the labour market. The sector also facilitates social, geographical and professional mobility, by relocating workers from sectors where there have been layoffs to sectors where there is still activity and growth.

Policy makers now need to engage with the private employment industries in their own countries to ensure that the G20 recommendations are met. Ciett is calling for G20 Ministers to encourage closer cooperation between private employment agencies and public employment services. In Ciett's experience, these kinds of public-private partnerships help job seekers re-enter the labour market, make employment services more effective and ensure a better, more efficient matching of supply and demand. Public-private partnerships must play a key role in active labour market policies going forward.

Finally, the sector is calling for G20 Ministers to support the increased ratification of ILO Convention n°181 on Private Employment Agencies. The Convention recognizes the role private employment agencies can play in a well-functioning labour market and provides legal recognition and support to their activities. *"It is essential that more countries ratify the Convention to allow private employment agencies to operate while ensuring the protection of their workers. Ultimately it is fundamental to the development of a fully functioning, well*

regulated industry that private employment agencies are able to play their role in supporting economic recovery” added Mr Pennel.

About Ciett (www.ciett.org)

As the International Confederation of Private Employment Agencies, Ciett is the authoritative voice representing the common interests of the agency work industry worldwide. Ciett is the only association that represents agency work at large - covering 40 countries - and in its diversity - gathering six of the largest multinational staffing companies as well as hundreds of thousands of SMEs.

Ciett promotes the contribution of millions of agency workers to the economy. Representing a well-regulated industry, members of Ciett refuse to compete at the expense of workers' rights and work hand-in-hand with governments to fight illegal work and social dumping.

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