

ADAPTHEAT Conference

# **The ACSH WP “Climate Change and OSH” Current state of play**

6 June, Brussels

# Agenda

1. **The ACSH and the Working Party “Climate Change”**
2. **Current state of play**
3. **Future challenges**

## **1. The ACSH and the Working Party “Climate Change”**

# The ACSH and the Working Party “Climate Change”



## The Advisory Committee on Health and Safety at Work

- Tripartite body that “assists the Commission in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of activities in the field of occupational safety and health (OSH) and facilitates cooperation between national administrations, trade unions and employers' organisations.”

## The Working Party “Climate Change”

- 4+1 members of each interest group
- WIG-Members from Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Spain and a European federation

# Agenda

## 2. Current state of play

## Current state of play

### Objective: Having an opinion until the plenary in November

- Has to be finalised until October to allow interest groups to adopt the text
- Mix of online and in person meetings
- Drafting group working on the text

### Initial discussion

- What is the (scientific and political) state of play?
- Semantics (extreme weather vs. heat)

⇒ Where do we want to put our focus?

# Current state of play

## Problem

- There are good solutions at the company or sectoral level, but not all can be transferred to other companies (e.g. wage agreement for roofers)
- In a recent survey by the German social accident insurance, less than one third of the respondents answered that the effects of climate change on OSH have been tackled in their company

## Our demands as trade unions

- We want concrete action and solutions
- We want to focus on heat
- But: dedicated directive or adjustments to existing legislation?

# Agenda

## 3. Future challenges



# Future challenges

## Position of the employers

- Framework directive already obligates employers to have adequate risk assessment and measures
- Lack of awareness and information is the main problem

## Role of government representatives in the working party

- Also view heat as the main issue to be tackled and also see the necessity for legislative action

## What is more:

- Not easy to isolate individual risk factors
- Mandate is very demanding

# Thank you very much!

**Dr. Sebastian Schneider**

Department of Social Policy

**German Trade Union Confederation**

Keithstraße 1, 10787 Berlin

E [sebastian.schneider@dgb.de](mailto:sebastian.schneider@dgb.de)

T +49 (0)30 24060-252

M +49 (0)171 2268319