

PES

ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΣΟΣΙΑΛΙΣΤΙΚΟ ΚΟΜΜΑ

Europe's socialists agree to make roadmap to avoid mass unemployment

16 October 2008

Europe's socialist, social democratic and labour parties today resolved to draw up a "roadmap" for "urgent action" to avoid "long-lasting recession" and to "prevent mass unemployment".

At a meeting in Brussels PES member party representatives called for "proactive investments across Member States, including in productive infrastructure, education and climate change. Europe needs an ambitious green growth strategy to jump start recovery and create jobs."

The PES also agreed that "The financial markets excessive and risky debt, excessive remuneration, conflicts of interest, and lack of transparency are all the result of a lack of regulation" and **adopted seven steps towards "a sound regulatory framework" for the financial markets including:**

1. Universal legislation covering all financial players with supervision across the financial markets reinforced;
2. Transparency and disclosure including of debts;
3. Mandatory 'capital requirements' for all financial players;
4. Rules to prevent excessive borrowing;
5. Limits on pay and remuneration, and mechanisms to ensure that earnings reflect losses as well as profits;
6. New rules to prevent conflict of interests;
7. Protecting workers interests such as ensuring that employees are informed and consulted during all takeovers including leveraged buy-outs.

"Preventing the financial meltdown was the first urgent step. Now we must urgently take action on a second stage: to build better regulation and do all we can to avoid the financial crisis turning into a long-lasting recession."