

EA(11)5764

Re: VS/2011/0131

Brussels, 7 July 2011

To members of Geopa and
members in candidate countries

INVITATION LETTER

Geopa-Copa Seminar

**on the continued vocational training of
agricultural workers in the European Union**

Hämeenlinna (FI) from 28 September - 2 October 2011

Dear Members,

As previously announced, with the support of the European Commission and the member organisation the Maaseudun Työnantajaliitto MTA, GEOPA-Copa will be holding a seminar. As is customary, the representatives of your organisation will be invited to attend this seminar.

The aim of the seminar is to compile data on the characteristics of the continued vocational training on offer in different countries for workers in agriculture.

We are delighted to invite you, together with the members of your organisation, to participate in this seminar. The employers' organisations in the candidate countries of Croatia, Macedonia and Turkey may also appoint a representative.

The seminar will be held in the following hotel:

KYLPYLAHOTELLI AULANKO

Aulangontie 93, FI-13210 Hämeenlinna
Tel +358-(0)3-658 801, Fax +358-(0)3-682 1922
E-mail: aulanko.rantasipi@restel.fi
Internet: www.rantasipi.fi

In order to prepare for this seminar, a questionnaire, doc EA(11)5767:4, on the characteristics of continued vocational training on offer in the Member States for workers in agriculture has been sent out to you with a request to send back your replies. The results of this survey will be presented during the conference.

The draft programme for this seminar is appended to this invitation [EA\(11\)5718 \(rev.1\)](#)



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Inclusion

Geopa-Copa, rue de Trèves 61, B 1040 BRUSSELS tel : (+32 2) 287 27 11

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the following languages:
active languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish and Finnish
passive languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Greek, Portuguese and Finnish.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Agnès Luycx, 0032 2 287 27 28 – Mobile: 0032 478 18 99 07, E-mail: agnes.luycx@copa-cogeca.eu.

I look forward to seeing you in Hämeenlinna.

Best regards,



Bernard LEVACHER
President

Annexes:

Programme [EA\(11\)5718 \(rev.1\)](#)

Farm visit programme [EA\(11\)5724 \(rev.1\)](#)

Registration form [EA\(11\)5766 \(rev.1\)](#)

Conditions for reimbursement [EA\(11\)5765 \(rev.1\)](#)



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DRAFT PROGRAMME

Geopa-Copa Seminar

**on the continued vocational training of
agricultural workers in the European Union**

**A substitute for inadequate initial training, an opportunity to develop skills and
the need to promote worker mobility.**

Hämeenlinna (FI) from 28 September - 2 October 2011

- **WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2011:** participants arrive
- **THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2011**

- 09.00am: Registration of participants
- 09.30: **Opening address by the presidents of GEOPA** and Maaseudun Työnantajaliitto **MTA** and a **minister** or director from the ministry.
- 10.20: **Speech** by a representative from **EFFAT**: the trade union point of view
- 10.40: Coffee break.
- 11.00: Speech by a representative from the **European Commission** on how employment and supply are managed across borders within the EU

Presentation by a representative from the NFU on the **history of the Agripass project** and debate with participants on the question of how to conclude this project which is designed to facilitate worker mobility across Europe.

Debate on the question of how to conclude this project which is designed to facilitate worker mobility across Europe – discussion with participants.

Presentation by the seminar's rapporteur: a summary of the survey completed by the national member organisations of GEOPA.

- 1.00pm: Lunch
- 2.00: **Presentation by the seminar's rapporteur: a summary of the survey** completed by the national member organisations of GEOPA.
- 3.00: **Participants take turns to confirm the information contained in the expert's report and explain the objectives of continued**



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vocational training: is it mainly a form of training organised to compensate for the shortcomings in initial vocational training or is it designed to build on workers' existing skills? (10 minutes per speaker)

- 4.00: Coffee break
- 4.30: Presentations (continued).
- 6.00: End of session.
- 8.00: Dinner.

- **FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

- 9.00am: Speech by the Secretary General of Copa-Cogeca
- 9.30: **In-depth study of 6 examples of good practice in the area of training.** These examples of good practice will be selected on the basis of the answers to the questionnaire.
- 11.00: Coffee break
- 11.30: Presentations (continued).
- 1.00pm: Lunch.
- 2.30: **General discussion: what kind of working programme could Geopa-Copa put to the social dialogue committee on the subject of continued vocational training:** what follow-up should there be to the European agreement of 5 December 2002?
- 4.00: Coffee break.
- 4.20: Debate (continued).
- 5.30: **Conclusions** by the President
- 6.00: End of session.
- 8.00: Dinner.

- **SATURDAY 01 OCTOBER 2011** Farm visits [EA\(11\)5724 \(rev.1\)](#)

- **SUNDAY 02 OCTOBER 2011:** Participants depart.



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Brussels, 7 July 2011

Geopa-Copa seminar on "the continued vocational training of agricultural workers in the European Union" Hämeenlinna (FI) from 29 September to 2 October 2011

SATURDAY 01 OCTOBER 2011

Farm visits:

- 09.00 Depart from hotel, two buses
- 09.30 **Lepaa Horticultural Institute** in Hattula (part of the HAMK University of Applied Sciences, - degree programmes in Horticulture and Landscape Design, - winery education, - international education)
- 11.30 Farm: **Rönnvik Vineyard** in Pälkäne (-producing berry wines, farm,tourism)
- 14.00 Farm: **Naistenlinna Oy** in Kangasala (- poultry farming: 70,000 broilers, - strawberry farming)
- 16.00 Farm: **Wääksy Manor** in Kangasala greenhouse production; lettuce and herbs, - horse stables and riding school)
- 18.30 Farm: **Hahkiala Manor** in Hauho (- cereals 110 ha, forest 320 ha, - Highland Cattle, - farm tourism, - dinner)
- 20.30 Return to hotel



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REGISTRATION FORM

Geopa-Copa SEMINAR - Hämeenlinna (FI) from 28 September - 2 October 2011

The Continued Vocational Training of Agricultural Workers in the European Union

Please fill in the form using capital letters and return to the Geopa-Copa Secretariat **by 27 August 2011 at the latest** by e-mail: yasmine.capitte@copa-cogeca.eu
<mailto:eric.vanbinst@copa-cogeca.eu>

or by fax: +32 2 287 27 00

1. Participant and organisation

Surname:

First name:

Organisation:

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

E-mail:

Accompanied by:

Surname:

First name:

2. Practical information (*please fill in this section before returning the form*)

Day and time of arrival: Flight number.....

Day and time of departure: Flight number

Airport:

Staying at the hotel from..... to Number of nights:

Single room Double room

Intending to take part in the farm visit on Saturday 01 October yes no

Language: English French German Italian Spanish Polish Finnish

NB: - In the event of a “no show” without having informed the hotel at least 7 days in advance, the invoice will be sent to the organisation.



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CONDITIONS FOR REIMBURSEMENT**Geopa – Copa Seminar
on the continued vocational training of
agricultural workers in the European Union****Hämeenlinna (FI) from 28 September - 2 October 2011****Please read this document carefully**

In accordance with the European Commission's regulations, the following procedure must be wholly respected otherwise we will not be authorised to reimburse your expenses.

I. REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL COSTS

In order to reimburse the costs involved in attending this seminar, please fill in and sign the expenses form that will be handed out to you during the seminar. After the seminar, please send the original plane ticket or the electronic ticket and the boarding cards for the outbound/inbound flights as well as any other relevant documents such as a passenger receipt or a copy of the travel agency's bill; train tickets and the travel agency's bill

to the Geopa - Copa Secretariat **before 29 October 2011**.

Initially, travel costs will be paid by the member organisations and then the reimbursements will be carried out in the following way:

Air: apex fare (economy class only) and only for distances of over 400km, or a return flight of over 800km, or if the itinerary includes sea travel.

Train: first class journey.

- Car: kilometres are NOT reimbursed. You will receive an amount that is equivalent to the same train journey in first class. In this case, you must inform us of what the ticket costs, stating the departure and arrival points.
- Bus: Transfer by the Paunu express bus from Helsinki airport to Hämeenlinna bus station
- Taxi: taxi journeys are NOT reimbursed.

Please note that if we do not receive the documentation by the deadline specified, we will NOT be authorised to reimburse your costs.

Please note that reimbursements will be paid into your organisation's bank account. We cannot pay the reimbursement into a private bank account.



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II. ACCOMMODATION

Participants are due to arrive on the evening of Wednesday 28 September and to depart on Sunday 02 October after breakfast.

A group reservation has been made at the hotel for the seminar participants. The seminar itself will also be taking place at the hotel.

GEOPA-COPA will cover accommodation costs at the hotel for 4 nights, including breakfast, for participants who confirm their participation in the seminar **before 17 August 2011** by using the attached registration form and indicating the date and time of their arrival and departure as well as stating the airport or train station.

Before departure, participants should settle up front any costs relating to extra nights as well as the cost of using the telephone, minibar or any extra services.

III. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Location of the seminar:

KYLPYLAHOTELI AULANKO

Aulangontie 93, FI-13210 Hameenlinna
Tel +358-(0)3-658 801, Fax +358-(0)3-682 1922
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Internet: www.rantasipi.fi

Simultaneous interpretation:

Active languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Finnish
Passive languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Finnish,
Greek, Portuguese.

Contact: Agnès Luycx
Tel: +32.2 .287.27.28
Mobile: +32 478.18.99.07
E-mail: agnes.luycx@copa-cogeca.eu



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