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Working Time Directive

Meeting on 5 December in Brussels, the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council sought to reach political agreement on the draft Directive on the organisation of working time.

The Presidency presented a compromise proposal, by suggesting to work on a simultaneous and integrated solution on two draft directives in connection to each other, and thus allowing member states to find a balance between the two.

The connection between the two directives, and more specifically the proposals presented by the Presidency, was considered a solid and viable basis for negotiation towards an agreement in both.

The Council agreed that the best option at this moment was to postpone a decision, in order to further pursue the dialogue.

The Presidency noted that a vast majority of member states had spoken in favour of an integrated solution for the directives, which is a major step forward, because they now open an adequate way to reach a solution in these files.

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