

26th of October 2007, press statement

Siemens: Reorganisation of the corporation and compliance at the focus of the international co-operation of the employees

43 Siemens trade unionists and works councils members of 17 countries of Europe, Asia and America have met in Frankfurt at the 25th and 26th of October 2007 to discuss worldwide the situation of the employees and the working conditions around the Siemens corporation.

With support of the Friedrich-Ebert-foundation the IG Metall trade union had invited to this meeting for the third time to improve the international collaboration of the trade unions at Siemens in view of the global strategic plans of the organisation.

The common goals are the improvement of the conditions for employees as well as the guarantee of employment and locations worldwide.

Actually the employees of Siemens and their representations in all countries pay their whole attention to the planned reorganization of the Siemens corporation.

Even though the management levels are already informed for a long time, most of the attendant employees representing the several countries do not have any information. For this reason the unionist decided to balance the managements' default with their own consolidated exchange of information in the future.

The employees are enormously worried by the consequences of the reorganization which are not appreciable for this time.

The unionists plead insistently that in the course of the reorganization of the corporation there will be no reduction of jobs, business units and locations. Their intention is to keep Siemens as an innovative and integrated hightech-concern. They appeal to the management to involve the representatives of interests and trade unions continuously and to consider their demands.

In context of to the compliance initiative of Siemens the unionists stressed that the corruption scandal has to be clarified and the responsible persons have to be called to account.

Concurrently the unionists turn resolutely against the criminalization of complete groups of the employees as well as against dubious methods in view to the data protection concerning the matter to acquire individual-related data on a big scale as already initiated in some countries.

A further aspect of the compliance improvement is in view of the employees' representatives the expressly reference not only to the laws and rules of the business conduct but also to the keeping of collective agreements, agreements with works councils and international working standards.

Finally the trade unionists demanded from Siemens to accept and implement on a world wide basis fundamental employment related legal norms, in particular the core standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the guidelines of Organization for Economic co-Operation and Development (OECD) for multinational enterprises.