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Ref. JWG/cb Brussels, 19 July 2023

Dear Dr Attila Beneda,

We appreciate your detailed response letter in which you enumerate the wage measures, that are mostly in the form of various bonuses, from 2016 and inform us that the first meeting on the sector-specific nursery pay scale has taken place.

We inform you that BDDSZ, as a member organisation of EPSU, regularly updates us on the situation of employees in early childhood care in Hungary and shares its experiences with European colleagues. We are therefore also aware of the complex regulatory environment, the salary level of nursery employees, as well as of the fact that since the first meeting there has unfortunately been no consultation on the sector-specific nursery pay scale.

We would be pleased to hear from our Hungarian colleagues if there were regular and meaningful social dialogue negotiations. Therefore, EPSU calls on the Hungarian government to act as partner of BDDSZ, the representative trade union in the sector, and to commit itself - in public - to meaningful negotiations on a sector-specific pay scale.

A transparent and genuine cooperation would provide a basis for a joint work aiming at the development of an adequate, fair and equitable remuneration for all employees based on the same principles (regulation).

Satisfied and adequately staffed workforce is the key to quality and safe childcare both for parents and the society as a whole.

We are confident that your cooperation with BDDSZ will strengthen quality childcare and quality care in Hungary!

Yours sincerely,

Jan Willem GOUDRIAAN EPSU General Secretary

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