

Flash report of the meeting between members of Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit and Google - 26 May 2021 - Ares(2021)3542552

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Dear colleagues,

Please find below the flash report of the meeting between members of the Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit and Google, which took place on 26/05/2021.

Best regards,

Flash report of the meeting between members of Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit and Google

26 May 2021

## Participants:

Karen Massin, Head Government Affairs and Public Policy - EU Institutions, Google Sara Elnusairi, Global Public Affairs Senior Manager, Google Christoph Nerlich, Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit Anouk Faber, Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit Paola Moscatelli, Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit Rilinda Canka, Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit Tatana Zelena, NEPT in the Cabinet of Commissioner Schmit Dennis van Gessel, Skills & Qualifications unit, DG EMPL

## **Summary of the meeting:**

This meeting took place following the recent application of Google to join the Pact for Skills and to explore ways to amplify their support, at the same time to discuss how Google could support ongoing work in the context of the EU Skills Agenda on Micro credentials and Individual Learning Accounts.

Google outlined how it is implementing its current commitment under the Pact for Skills of providing 100.000 free licences to follow training paths with Google, 50% of which would be given to disadvantaged groups. On the latter, Google explained that it is working with INCO who received a grant of 5 mio EUR and is tasked to reach out to disadvantaged groups and local networks to increase take-up of this tranche. The money should create the conditions for people to participate, e.g. by providing vouchers for childcare.

Google explained that they would like to update their commitment to the Pact for Skills by amplifying their current commitments and by offering further support to the Pact in terms of upand reskilling. The idea would be to focus on small companies, notably in the retail sector as well as businesses led by women, ethnic minorities or in rural areas and businesses that have yet to master the challenges of digitalisation. They want to reach 10 mio businesses in EMEA and have reached 3 mio until now. They have also set up a matching-mentoring programme where Google staff offers support to micro and small companies. DG EMPL offered to provide assistance if needed on the renewal of Google's commitment under the Pact.

As regards micro-credentials, Google explained that jobs are currently changing fast, a traditional study or course is not always available to match job descriptions and Micro-credentials can be a means to further develop yourself on your own pace complementing the formal educational area. Based on a study by McKinsey, Google has identified where there are particular training needs and is developing courses together with the Universities Stanford and Harvard, which are rolled out by Coursera. Google is also preparing a contribution to the public consultations on Micro-Credentials and on Individual Learning Accounts.