**Ensuring that the Platform Work Directive Delivers for All**

Dear Minster Diaz,

We, the ministers of labor of +++ EU Member states, are writing to express reservations about the direction of negotiations on the proposal for Improving Working Conditions in Platform Work.

We remain committed to ensuring the fair and just treatment of platform workers across the European Union, striking a balance between protecting workers and providing legal certainty for the platforms they work through, and protecting the principle of subsidiarity. To that end, our governments have reservations about the compromises being proposed in the current negotiations. We believe these go far beyond the mandate given for negotiations.

We would like to stress that recent proposals from the Parliament on the presumption and rebuttal process (Article 4), do not meaningfully move towards the Council position on any of the key areas; criteria and thresholds for triggering the presumption; the rebuttal taking place based solely on national law; the prerogative of Member States to apply a suspensive effect; and the application of the presumption during tax, criminal and social security proceedings.

We recall that the General approach of 6th June, which was the result of detailed deliberations and agreed in the spirit of compromise. However, proposed Parliament compromises would severely interfere with our national competences, procedures and definitions in the field of labour relations. We would like to urge your Council Presidency to remain within the clearly defined red lines set out in the General Approach.

Furthermore, we seek clarity on how the final Directive will affect our national laws. Many provisions, as discussed in this negotiation, without clearly defined derogations may lead to more uncertainty and unintended consequences. It is essential that the final Directive does not undermine positive reforms we have achieved on the ground, including effective social dialogue and better cooperation on tax and law enforcement issues.

Lastly, we would like to emphasize the need to ensure a more transparent use of algorithms in the platform economy. Consent-based processing, as opposed to a blanket ban on certain systems, as advocated by the European Parliament, can provide platform workers with more transparency and control over their data, without unnecessary burden.

In conclusion, we strongly believe that the Platform Work Directive must be carefully crafted to strike the right balance between protecting workers and supporting the digital economy. We request that the Council Presidency takes our concerns and inquiries into consideration and seeks legal guidance to ensure that the final agreement aligns with the values and interests of EU Member States.

We look forward to your response and continued cooperation to address these critical issues.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Minister of Labour

Estonia

Minister of Labour

France

Minister of Labour

Lithuania

Minister of Labour

Greece

Minister of Labour

Latvia

Minister of Labour

Czech Republic

Minister of Labour

Slovakia

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Hungary

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Sweden

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Austria