

On the one hand, the outcome expected from an interregional structure is precisely the possibility to learn from the structures from different places, systems, ways and experiences which are valid to improve the quality of life of consumers living in our territory. Moreover, we would like one of the fundamental values or cruxes of the new structure to be the perception of responsible consumption as an element that has to shape the main lines of any outreach or corrective action, etc. which aims at citizens as consumers. Promoting reflection in the habits of purchasing and contracting, respect towards the environment and sustainable consumer practices, as well as the offer of fair trade as a priority should be one of the most important objectives among the members of the NEPIM net.

It is important to establish sections or programmes where the past, present and future experiences of the NEPIM members can be gathered together. E. g.: Consumer education, resolution of consumer conflicts, information to consumers, etc. This way, it would be easier for participants to put in common the most important actions and it would even be possible to examine the viability of transferring certain practices from one region to another.

On the other hand, we believe it is essential to continue the participation in the open consultations of the European Commission and other outstanding institutions of the EU. It is basic that the NEPIM lobby becomes more and more known and present in the different spheres where it can be distinguished as a leading group which is concerned by the improvement of the European consumers' quality of life and the respect for the environment.

Regarding the organisational structure of NEPIM:

A bureaucratic and not very agile or practical structure with inoperative bodies with insufficient or no power of decision at all shall be avoided (such as the former IEIC, European Interregional Institute for Consumer Affairs).

The most suitable structure would be a Secretariat which is able to organize, encourage and coordinate the lobby action before the European institutions or the bodies dealing with the regional Funds. The Secretariat should promote meetings of all the members of the net at least twice a year.

The Secretariat has to be provided with sufficient personnel and economic means in order to carry out the tasks of organization, promotion and project management, which all or some of the members have in common.

Initially, a member organization, the VSZ Belgium, could receive the sufficient funds to develop this task, until other EU funds suitable for subsidizing the administrative task are found, depending on the different projects we decide to participate in.

It is fundamental that all members keep on the research and contact of possible new members, preferably belonging to a regional sphere or context, either public or semi-public, or private.