



Renaud Dutreil – Thank you speech

During his mandate as Minister for SMEs, commerce, craft industries and regulated professions, he was one of the architects of a very important “Contract for growth between the professional organisations of the hospitality industry and the public authorities, in favour of employment and modernisation of the sector of hotels, restaurants and cafés”.

This contract contains various elements:

One component deals with the support to job creations, through the improvement and the simplification of employment aids, and the support to the professional inclusion of young people in apprenticeship. The measures contained in this component have notably allowed the entire sector to sign in 2007 a wage agreement of uttermost importance, leading among other things to a global wage increase of 12%.

One component deals with the development of the quality and the support to the modernisation of the sector. This support is notably achieved through the setting-up of a provisional financial contribution for partially tax-exempted investments and the creation of the title “Maître Restaurateur”.

One component deals with the creation of new mechanisms to finance the renovation of the buildings of the sector.

Finally, another component deals with a communication campaign towards young people on the jobs available in the hospitality industry. This campaign will be continued from September 2008 on with an overall budget of 3 millions €.

What is EHF?

The European Hospitality Foundation (EHF) was created in 2006 and its objective is to finance non-profit projects related to HOTREC's activities. For more information: <http://www.hotrec.eu/about-us/european-hospitality-foundation.aspx>