

UniCredit European Works Council: Improving Cooperation to Strengthen Social Dialogue

Industrial Relations - Yapı Kredi Bank / TURKEY

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# Collective Agreements and Individual Contracts in Turkey and YKB

In the Country System;

- Beside the individual employment contracts; it is also possible to sign Collective Labour Agreements within the companies in which the unionization occurred.
- Union can be authorized to sign collective agreement only if 51% of the employees affiliate with an union.
- Collective Labour Agreements are not signed at country level but individually signed for each unionized company.
- In Yapı Kredi Bank there are two different group employees:
  - Unionized employees: For those employees 12th Term Collective Bargaining Agreement (valid between April 1,2007- March 31,2009) is effective. Also, Labour Law and YKB Personnel Regulation articles are applied for them.
  - Non- Unionized employees: Labour Law and YKB Personnel Regulation articles are effective for these employees.

#### **Employee Representation in YKB**

- 'Union Rrepresentatives' are entitled to represent the employees within YKB. They are;
  - the top level union's body at the workplace
  - responsible to organize relations between:
    - employer and unionized employees
    - unionized employees and the union and employer.
- They are appointed by the Union.
- Union representatives are appointed both in Branches and Head Office Departments.
- They are attending the biennial meetings between Union and Employer during the Collective Bargaining Terms. They communicate the meeting details to other employees.

### **Major Topics of Collective Bargaining within YKB**

Within YKB, 12<sup>th</sup> Term Collective Bargaining Agreement valid between April 1,2007– March 31,2009 is effective. Major topics of this agreement are stated below;

- General Provisions;
  - > Aim
  - Scope of Agreement
  - > Representation of Employer, recognition and representation of Union
  - Use of Agreement
  - Method of Salary Payment
- Employment Contract and the Scope
- Compensation and Fringe Benefits
- Social Aids
- Disciplinary Committee and Disciplinary Penalties
- Union Rights, Solution of disagreements
- Duration Period of Agreement

## **Focus on (1/2)**

| TOPIC                         | LEVEL OF NEGOTIATION | NEGOTIATION NOT PROVIDED |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
|                               |                      |                          |
| BASIC SALARY                  | COMPANY              |                          |
| WORKING HOURS                 | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |
| HOLIDAYS                      | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |
| JOB CLASIFICATION             | COMPANY              |                          |
| PROFESSIONAL<br>DEVELOPMENT   |                      | X                        |
| WELFARE: PENSION SCHEMES      | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |
| WELFARE:HEALTH INSURANCES     | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |
| ANY OTHER<br>WELFARE'BENEFIT' | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |

## **Focus on (2/2)**

| TOPIC                    | LEVEL OF NEGOTIATION | NEGOTIATION NOT PROVIDED |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ILLNESS                  | NATIONAL/COMPANY     |                          |
| MATERNITY<br>LEAVES      | NATIONAL             |                          |
| INDIVIDUAL<br>DISMISSALS | NATIONAL             |                          |
| SAFETY AT<br>WORKPLACE   | NATIONAL             |                          |

## Company Restructurings (Integration) Collective Dismissals/Redundancies

- In Turkey, collective dismissal process because of the company restructuring is defined by the Labour Law.
  - By Law;
    - To dismiss at least 30 employees in the Region of one Labour Placement Office at once is defined as the Collective Dismissal.
    - Company must inform the Union representatives, Labour Ministry and Labour Placement Office about the collective dismissal in written form 30 days before the action.
    - Meeting on the process should be held between the union representatives and the employer and documentation of these meetings should be prepared.

## Company Restructurings (Integration) Collective Dismissals/Redundancies

- During the restructuring of YKB,
  - ➤ The process is managed according to the Labour Law, the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Personnel Regulation.
  - "Social Plan" is not defined by the Law and Collective Bargaining Agreement but may be done according to the company's own policies.
    - During the restructuring process after the merge of Yapı Kredi Bankası A.Ş.– Koçbank A.Ş. "Social Plan" was applied effectively and outplacement is provided.
- Employees have been transferred (national or international) to other group companies and subsidiaries to manage the restructurings.
- Within YKB branches and Head Office departments transfers or position changes have been made.
- Totally 780 employees are converted to other jobs in 2006 and 2007.

# A contribute to the Joint Declarations: Training, Learning and Professional Development

- For the new hires, there are core banking training programs to support their orientation and to improve their both technical and soft skills about their new position.
- There is a Training Catalogue which is prepared according to job titles and consisting of both technical and personal development training programs.
- From Training Catalogue, all employees can choose one training program from each category every year. These categories are;
  - Obligatory Training Programs; which are essential for the improvement of the employee
  - Optional Training Programs; which could be beneficial for the employee to increase performance and improvement.
- Furthermore; there is an e-learning portal which employees could apply and complete them on their own.