**Near You** 



## Clément Bourse

Dear colleagues,

I am a Contract Agent, agronomist as background and further specialised in rural development. I have been working for **12 years in developing countries** (Central America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific) managing development aid. I participated in several EU Electoral Observation Missions (Nicaragua, Guatemala, Indonesia, DR Congo). And I have been employed for the past **6 years by the Commission in Delegations** (Afghanistan and Papua New Guinea) in Operations sections

I have been involved in **Social dialogue** as soon as I joined the Delegation to Afghanistan back in 2006. Since I consider **staff unity** as a key issue my objective is to **promote, respect and defend rights** keeping in mind the **general interest of ALL STAFF**. Given the current difficult socio-economic times and a strong tendency to target EU staff, we will have to remain extra vigilant, as we could already see with the so called "smart savings", in a way self-suggesting that others savings were perhaps not that smart...

As a recent example I flagged at highest levels the improper changes in the management of rest leaves for Delegations in difficult countries, which led to quick and formal apologies and correction from the Management.

I wish to pursue the idea of career perspective for Contract Agents, including amongst others discussions about the possibility to access posts of Head of Section/Sector. Moreover I truly believe that negotiating General Implementing Provisions (GIPs) for CA mobility will be a crucial step towards a bit more fairness for this staff category.