



Engaging scout for Cao UMCs did not lead to result

Date 24-6-2021

The negotiations for a new cao for employees of university medical centres between the unions and the cao delegation of the NFU under the guidance of a scout did not lead to a concrete result today. The scout ascertained that there is currently no perspective on a result of the negotiations.

The NFU and the unions attempted to find a balance between a wage increase for everyone and the substantial improvements that were already on the table. To the great disappointment of the cao delegation, the financial possibilities of the UMCs remain too limited in the unions' view. The NFU understands the wish for a wage increase, but had already made it clear that without an additional contribution from the government, there was no financial leeway for a universal wage increase for everyone along with the proposed substantial improvements.

Dependent on government's contribution

The Social and Economic Council clearly stated in its [advisory report](#) of 12 May 2021 that the government would have to provide additional leeway for wages for healthcare employees, especially those in the middle groups. "We also strove for benefits for the middle groups in the cao negotiations, but to enable a universal wage increase for everyone, we are dependent on additional support from the government. We are therefore continuing our [appeal](#) to the politicians in The Hague," said Gabriël Zwart, director of Maastricht UMC+ and cao-negotiator.

Karen Kruijthof, director of Amsterdam UMC and cao-negotiator, is disappointed. "We were so happy that we could negotiate with the unions under the guidance of a scout to arrive at a new cao for our employees as quickly as possible. We are so sorry that we have not been able to find a mutually agreeable solution. In these economically uncertain times, the UMCs are faced with unexpected expenses and reduced income, and we are behind with investments. We do not know how the corona crisis will continue to develop. That is the reality. We feel our employees deserve a wage increase, but we do not have the resources on our own to bring that about given the circumstances. We cannot spend money that we do not have. Various UMCs are already having to make deep budget cuts to stay out of the red."
