



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change
Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations

SECTORAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE CIVIL AVIATION

ATM working group meeting 22 November 2007 Concise minutes (adopted on 13 March 2008)

Chair: Morning session: Mr Etienne (ETF), afternoon session: Ms Desseaux (CANSO)

1. Adoption of the agenda and adoption of the minutes of the last meeting

The agenda and the minutes of the last meeting (4 July) were adopted, the latter with a small amendment.

2. Engineers' competence scheme

The parties endorsed a joint text: "CANSO-ETF Common Understanding on a Competence and Training Scheme for Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel (ATSEP)". The workers' side also considered that it was important to come to a definition of an ATSEP and of safety-critical tasks, as requested by the Commission. CANSO confirmed that work would be done on these two issues.

3. Functional airspace blocks (FABs)

The participants were satisfied with the joint statement adopted at the Paris conference¹, even if in CANSO's view it concentrated more on what other stakeholders should be doing rather than the signatory parties themselves. For ETF, the joint text was a good basis for the assessment ("each year..., the social partners will assess the progress made by their members in order to achieve the above goals"). As a first step, information and consultation arrangements should be carefully looked at (Were the adopted guidelines for consultation arrangements being followed?); in addition, the parties had asked the Commission to present the text to the Single Sky Committee. An ETF representative reported that the agreement on consultation signed by Social Partners was far from being fully implemented in some countries. CANSO acknowledged that an assessment at FAB level had not been considered yet, but turned down ETF's proposal to do so. The chair proposed that the parties should formulate a position on how to make the assessment. ETF suggested to draft a methodology paper for the assessment and to send it to

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/dsw/public/displayRecord.do?id=5026

CANSO, with the aim of approving it at the next meeting. Ms Durst (DG EMPL) invited the parties to consult other social dialogue texts with concrete follow-up provisions².

4. High Level Group on aviation regulation and Single European Sky review

As far as the joint identification of key issues concerning the HLG report was concerned, CANSO referred to the statements issued by either party which provided enough substance for a common text. ETF and CANSO agreed to work upon a joint input to the conference "Towards A more Performing European Aviation System" organised by the Commission on 22 January 2008. A first draft would be made by 10 December, even if the Commission's communication (meanwhile adopted on 20 December³) might go beyond the HLG report. The final input should be ready by 15 January. ETF referred to its proposed work programme with regard to the expected second Single Sky package. CANSO announced this work would be taken into consideration when drawing up the first draft.

5. Information about the Just Culture Conference

The final conference report came out last week. The social partners had met with DG TREN officials in August and had addressed a letter to Vice-President Barrot in October. DG TREN would start a stakeholder consultation soon (meanwhile planned for the end of January 2008). The Just Culture working group, in which all civil aviation social partner organisations are involved, would focus on social issues.

6. Information from DG TREN

Mr Tytgat and Mr De Vos (DG TREN) reported about recent progress with regard to the Single European Sky and SESAR. The second Single Sky package was a strategic element of the Commission's 2008 work programme. By Eastern, the regulatory content would have to be ready (adoption foreseen before the 12 June Transport Council meeting), and an impact assessment would have to be delivered by early 2008. The social partners were invited to contribute to the reflexion before the conference of 22 January 2008⁴. ETF and CANSO announced their joint input to the conference. The DG TREN representatives also reported on developments regarding the SEE FABA.

7. Any other business

The parties had an exchange about the social dialogue approach within SESAR. Social issues would be discussed after completion of the definition phase of the SESAR project (see work programme of the sectoral dialogue committee). Mr Gustavsson (ETF) would initiate the work.

The DG EMPL representative informed the participants that the Commission had just received an official request from ATCEUC to be recognised as European social partner organisation in the civil aviation sector. The Commission would now undertake its usual

² http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_dialogue/provisions_en.htm

³ http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air_portal/traffic_management/ses_review/index_en.htm

⁴ For that purpose, an ad hoc social dialogue consultation meeting was fixed for 14 December 2007.

assessment⁵. CANSO had also been approached by the organisation and would issue a considered response. ETF clearly stated that they do not recognize ATCEUC as a European social partner organisation in the civil aviation sector, as described in the 1998 Commission's Communication. However, ETF is ready to find the best formula which could enable ATCEUC to participate in the European social dialogue ATM working group.

The next meeting of the ATM working group is planned for 13 March 2008.

List of participants

<p><u>Employers:</u></p> <p>Mr Boivin (DSNA) Mr Calderin (AENA) Mr Cerny (ANS CZ) Ms D'Alesio (ENAV) Ms Desseaux (CANSO) Mr Friese (DFS) Mr James (NATS) Mr Josefsson (LFV) Mr Kavanagh (IAA) Mr Maguire (IAA) Ms Rullier (CANSO)</p>	<p><u>Workers:</u></p> <p>Mr Ballestero (ETF) Mr Caciula (ATCOR) Mr Clarkson (Prospect) Mr Dinu (ATCOR) Mr Etienne (ETF) Mr Fischer (ver.di) Mr Graham (Prospect) Ms Guillemyrn (ACV-Transcom) Mr Gustavsson (ST) Mr Horony (ATCA SR) Mr Joffrin (ETF) Mr King (Prospect) Mr Kulev (UTWS Bulgaria) Mr Liorzou (UNSA) Mr Nicolson (ETF) Ms Ni Riada (ETF) Mr Payr (VIDA) Mr Ramos (CC.OO) Mr Rubini (FIT-CISL)</p>
<p><u>European Commission:</u></p> <p>Mr De Vos (DG TREN/F.2) Ms Durst (DG EMPL/F.1) Mr Tytgat (DG TREN/F.2)</p>	

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_dialogue/represent_en.htm