



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue  
Social dialogue, Industrial Relations

Brussels, 15 October 2013

SECTORAL DIALOGUE  
COMMITTEE  
ROAD TRANSPORT

## Concise minutes of the Urban Public Transport Working Group meeting 25 September 2013

The meeting was chaired by Mr Heimlich (workers).

### **1. Adoption of the agenda. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting on 25 September 2012.**

Both agenda and minutes were adopted.

### **2. The drivers' training directive for bus drivers in urban public transport**

Following to the discussion last year, social partners discussed the upcoming revision of the drivers' training directive 2003/59/EC and its impact on their draft joint recommendations on drivers' training. In the view of UITP there is primarily a need for objective evaluation of the current Directive and social partners need to remain cautious at this stage. Ms Trier (ETF) reminded of the I&I Days project outcome stressing the need for action on improvement of quality of the training centers and more attention being driven to the training of bus drivers. Both side agreed to change in the character of joint response from recommendations to a statement or opinion and discussed a number of changes to the text. It was agreed that both secretariats meet in 3-4 weeks to reach a compromise on the text.

### **3. Information from DG Move and discussion**

Mr Lazzeri (DG MOVE) presented the Commission's consultation on the revision of the Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of bus and lorry drivers (see slides presentation). The Commission outlined the main reasons for the revision being difficulties in practical application, lacking aspect of mutual recognition of training and new legislative and technological developments. The next steps on the direction are yet to be decided, taking into consideration also the outcome of the public consultation (so far over 200 answers have been received). The social partners asked the Commission to clarify the timetable and expressed their concerns over a possibility of withdrawing the Directive. Both sides stated their support to the Directive as a whole. The workers pointed to importance of the training's quality and that the costs cannot be bared by drivers.

In a following presentation, Mr Liegoise (DG MOVE) summarized the urban public transport-related aspects of the modification in the Public Service Obligation (PSO) regulation 1370/2007 within the 4th railways package. According to the Commission,

the proposed legislation is intended to keep a balance between public and commercially provided services and leaves the possibility of public service contract in justified cases. As urban transport is already in competitive tendering process, the proposed changes will mostly have an impact on sub-urban train network. The social partners raised concerns related to the transition period in the implementation of the current regulation, which will end only in 2019, the pressure it poses on the employment and working conditions in the sector and the definition of the "internal operator".

In the last presentation Mr Major (DG MOVE) outlined work being done to prepare the 2013 Sustainable Urban Mobility Package (SUMPs), which is to be published by the Commission later this year. The Commission underlined the need for promotion of comprehensive approach to city planning in Europe and presented the stakeholders' views on different aspects of SUMPs, which will be formulated as a legal but not mandatory proposal. In their reactions, ETF said that it would welcome Commission recommendation on where cities invest road user charges in collective public transport and UITP stressed that a good urban mobility system leads to reduction in transport costs for the city economy.

#### **4. Women employment in urban public transport**

ETF presented the draft recommendations, which notably included the target of increasing the women employment to 25% by 2020 and suggested a follow-up action to "deepen" the work done within the WISE project. UITP's concerns evolved about including recommendations on cooperation between social partners at company level, which are touching upon with the companies' management policies. The secretariats agreed to meet to discuss finalizing the draft recommendations and preparing the first draft of a joint project.

#### **5. Exchange of view on the design of a possible joint project "Buying social" (work program 2013/2014)**

Mr Dekindt (UITP) suggested meeting among the secretariats to look into the social dimensions of the tendering procedures and possibly prepare also a joint project. ETF stressed that social dialogue needs to be kept separate from the corporate social responsibility (CSR) and brought up an example of a similar project in the railways sector. Mr Surtour (CGT Bus) said that the project would be of strategic importance to the workers' side. The chair proposed in conclusion for secretariats to discuss further and prioritize between the two projects discussed during the day.

#### **6. The bus drivers' work place – health and safety at work**

Referring to a document drafted within the UITP managed EBSF project, ETF made suggestions to include minimum standards on the drivers' workplace to go beyond drivers' seat, the dashboard and pedals, with a long-term vision to establish European standards. Mr Dekindt was not sure whether UITP would have a mandate on that and asked for a short document from ETF on this issue.

#### **7. Any other business**

Under any other business, Ms Winiarska (DG EMPL) informed about the state of play of the study on the representativeness of the social partners, covering road transport (including urban public transport) and logistics. The national reports shall be sent out for verification by social partners and their members by the end of November.

## *Participants*

### **Employers (6 ♂, 4 ♀)**

Ms Bönnemann (DE)  
Mr Dekindt (UITP)  
Mr Kenny (IE)  
Mr Kothy (DE)  
Ms Mougey (FR)  
Mr Nemeč (IRU)  
Ms Petit (FR)  
Mr Preumont (CER)  
Ms Sadoux (UITP)  
Mr Salmon (UK)

### **Workers (13 ♂, 3 ♀)**

Mr Albertazzi (ETF)  
Mr Andersen (DK)  
Mr Buenestado (ES)  
Mr Brown (UK)  
Mr d'Hooghe (NL)  
Mr Gobe (FR)  
Mr Heimlich (DE)  
Ms Kustcs (HU)  
Mr Kristov (BG)  
Mr Miladinov (BG)  
Mr Nemes (HU)  
Ms Schwiegershausen – Guth (DE)  
Mr Sutour (FR)  
Mr Terrisse (FR)  
Ms Trier (ETF)  
Mr Tsenov (BG)

### **European Commission**

Mr Ferravante (DG MOVE)  
Mr Hamet (DG MOVE)  
Mr Lazzeri (DG MOVE)  
Mr Liegeois (DG MOVE)  
Mr Major (DG MOVE)  
Ms Winiarska (DG EMPL)