



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG

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

Brussels, 12 October 2012

SECTORAL DIALOGUE
COMMITTEE
ROAD TRANSPORT

Concise minutes of the Urban Public Transport Working Group meeting 25 September 2012

1. Adoption of the agenda and designation of new working group chairperson

The agenda was adopted.

Ms Vasarainen (employers) was designated new chairperson of the social dialogue committee's working group. She replaced Mr Heimlich (workers) who had chaired the working group during three years¹ and was thanked for his valuable contribution. Mr Heimlich was designated new vice-chairperson.

Mr Viccars (IRU) announced that he would leave his organisation after seven years. He introduced his successor, Mr Nemeč.

2. Implementation of the Urban Mobility Action Plan

Ms van Wortel (DG MOVE), informed the participants about the Action Plan, its implementation and the future "Urban Transport Package" planned for next year (see slide presentation). The latter would consist of a Communication and a proposal for an EU framework for Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans. A public consultation had just been launched, running till mid-December². Ms van Wortel invited the social partners to participate in the consultation and to add any suggestion to the Commission.

ETF mentioned financing/charging and third party violence/security in urban public transport as missing elements. UITP referred to the joint ETF-UITP statement regarding the proposed Green Paper on Urban Mobility of 30 January 2007³ which had highlighted the importance of employment and quality of work. ETF suggested trying to come to a new joint paper once the Commission's implementation report was available. The joint paper should be based on the 2007 statement. UITP agreed with this objective.

3. WISE project: women employment in urban public transport sector

Mr Dekindt (UITP) made a first proposal for social partners recommendations based on the results of the joint project⁴ (see slide presentation). In reaction to the proposal, Ms

¹ See minutes of meeting of 10 November 2009.

² http://ec.europa.eu/transport/consultations/index_en.htm

³ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=521&langId=en>

⁴ See project website <http://wise-project.net/pages/index1.html>

Trier (ETF) confirmed that the project had identified the major elements where action was required or which needed to be addressed. It would be useful to distinguish between actions and instruments. However, what was missing was the need to have strong corporate policy where the top-level management actively supports policy. It would be equally important to have a monitoring element in order to get statistics on female employment.

ETF volunteered to draft a first version of joint recommendations (maximum two pages) by March/April. The plan was to sign such a joint text at a conference to be organised in the future.

IRU asked UITP and ETF to present the results at the plenary meeting of 24 October so that everyone was aware what was happening in the working group.

4. Presentation of "Buying social and CSR" recommendations

In the presence of Mr Flausch, UITP's Secretary General, Ms Delmas presented recommendations drawn up by UITP's Social Matters Expert Group (see slide presentation). These had not yet been adopted by UITP but it would be interesting to share and discuss them with the workers' side.

ETF fully supported the objective of UITP's exercise, which was to support and increase public transport. The draft recommendations contained very interesting elements but also raised some questions, such as the objectives of the "multi-stakeholder platform", its agenda and the role social partners would play therein. ETF needed to discuss the proposal internally.

5. Presentation of the EBSF (European Bus System of the Future) project

Mr Guida (UITP), project director of the EBSF project⁵, presented the general information, the approach and the conclusions regarding the drivers' work place (see slide presentation). The final event would take place on 15 October in Brussels. The workers' side confirmed its attendance and was satisfied that eventually workers' had been appropriately involved in the project. The next steps of the project would be to widely disseminate its results and to consolidate/enlarge the work in order to develop common "European guidelines for driver's workplace" agreed by all stakeholders.

6. Further discussion of draft recommendations on drivers' training

Despite the commitment at last year's meeting to finalise the recommendations after December, no progress had been made. ETF regretted that almost all their amendments made on 22 September last year had been rejected by UITP. The workers' side considered it nevertheless worthwhile to finalise the text and at the same time include elements regarding the Commission's implementation report COM(2012)385⁶. ETF had submitted in writing a summary of the state of play which also contained ETF's suggestions regarding the Commission report. UITP was ready to further work on the text but made clear that these recommendations could not be binding on its members. ETF proposed to meet at secretariats' level within two weeks to make progress.

⁵ <http://www.ebsf.eu/>

⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/pdf/professional_drivers/report_on_periodic_training_of_professional_drivers_en.pdf

7. Any other business

ETF officially requested that the urban public transport working group become a separate sectoral dialogue committee. UITP said that they were satisfied with the current arrangement but agreed that the sector merited its own committee. However, UITP warned against putting the current balance (partnership with IRU, CER and cooperation with UTA (Urban Transport Association) hosted by CEEP) into question. In order to establish a new committee, the social partners needed to make a joint request to the Commission. Mr Dekindt (UITP) was ready to launch this process.

It was decided to hold the next working group meeting at the end of September 2013.

Participants

Employers (7 ♂, 6 ♀)

Ms Bergers (BE)
Ms Bönnemann (DE)
Mr Dekindt (UITP)
Ms Delmas (UITP)
Mr Flausch (UITP)
Mr Guida (UITP)
Ms Jabeur (FR)
Mr Kenny (IE)
Mr Nemeč (IRU)
Ms Sadoux (UITP)
Mr Salmon (UK)
Ms Vasarainen (FI)
Mr Viccars (IRU)

Workers (13 ♂, 4 ♀)

Mr Albertazzi (ETF)
Mr Arrestrup (DK)
Mr d'Hooghe (NL)
Mr di Santo (IT)
Ms Gällhagen (SE)
Mr Georgiev (BG)
Mr Heimlich (DE)
Ms Holder (AT)
Mr Jettimo (IT)
Ms König (SE)
Mr Kressin (NL)
Mr Mitchell (UK)
Mr Piras (IT)
Mr Schlömer (DE)
Mr Sutour (FR)
Mr Sweep (NL)
Ms Trier (ETF)

European Commission

Ms Durst (DG EMPL)
Ms van Wortel (DG MOVE)