



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 ROAD TRANSPORT

Meeting of the working group "Urban public transport"

10 November 2009

Concise minutes (adopted on 27 September 2010)

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

The agenda and the minutes of the last meeting (30 April 2008) were adopted.

2. Designation of new working group chairperson

Mr Heimlich (workers, chairman of ETF's urban public transport committee) was designated new chairperson of the social dialogue committee's working group. He replaced Mr Armengol (employers) who had chaired the working group during eight years. The parties agreed to alternate the mandate between workers and employers from now on every three years.

3. Follow-up of the QSTP project

The parties discussed the draft recommendations drawn up in the framework of the project "Competence-based Service Quality in Urban Transport – Organisational development and new career paths for drivers" (QSTP). With regards to content, ETF had five comments on the sixth draft provided by UITP in September last year. These comments concerned the preamble, sections 3.2, 3.5, 3.6 and the follow-up provisions. UITP criticised the long reaction time and announced they would examine the proposed amendments which were substantial. It was agreed to work on the text again at the secretariats level. The Commission representative recommended showing more clearly in the text to whom it is addressed.

4. Training

UITP informed the meeting about the state of play with regard to the "I & I days" which would take place on 4-5 February 2010 (<http://www.i-and-i-days.eu/>).

5. Women in urban public transport

Mr Springer (employers) presented the VDV proposal for a joint project on women in urban public transport, which was afterwards discussed. UITP felt that the methodology should be fine-tuned. ETF made further suggestions to be taken into consideration (first part: toilets, harassment at work, pay, perception of social dialogue; third part: competency development, access to training, career opportunities). In order to introduce a grant application by March 2010, the chairperson proposed setting up a steering group with four delegates per side of industry.

6. Insecurity and the feeling of insecurity in urban public transport

ETF presented its draft questionnaire aimed at assessing the situation with regard to (the feeling of) insecurity in urban public transport, against the background of the joint recommendations on the same subject in 2003¹. The proposed questions followed the structure of the recommendations and included a supplementary question on the way aggressions in public transport are judicially considered in each country (objective: to ensure prosecution). UITP was not necessarily convinced of this new question (question 9) but announced they would react to this first draft of the questionnaire. UITP also suggested considering specific questions addressed to the enterprises (and not only to the trade unions as proposed), for instance on the quality of their contact to the police. The chairperson recommended to send the finalised questionnaire jointly to either side's affiliates and to attach the 2003 recommendations.

7. Social considerations in public procurement

The parties exchanged information on the Commission's future guide on social considerations in public procurement² and the way the public urban transport working group could pick this item up. UITP announced that they would conclude their internal discussion by 3 February 2010. Meanwhile, the employers' side asked ETF to think of the right balance between social and financial considerations. ETF reminded that the subject was not new; it had been addressed during a joint conference on quality in 2003. Since two years the new PSO regulation³ was in force and it would be in the joint interest of employers and workers to contribute to a level playing field in cases of a competitive tendering procedure. It was agreed to put the item on the agenda at the next meeting since no decision could be taken today.

8. Any other business

On 20 October, ETF had sent proposals for a multi-annual work programme for the working group to UITP. UITP agreed with the proposals on qualification/training/certification (with the QSTP finalisation as point aside), women in public transport, and aggressions and violence in public transport. The employers could not yet agree with the point on health and safety at work and would postpone its decision on "defining quality and social criteria for tender publications" as discussed earlier. The Commission representative asked the social partners to send items once finalised in order to integrate them in the sectoral dialogue committee's work programme.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/dsw/public/actRetrieveText.do?id=10050

² See study on <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=331&langId=fr&newsId=417&furtherNews=yes>

³ Regulation (EC) No 1370/2007 of 23.10.2007 on public passenger transport services by rail and by road

The parties exchanged their views on the Commission's Action Plan on Urban Mobility⁴.

ETF informed the employers' side that they had agreed participating in a project run by CEEP ("Anticipation of change in public services") although they had not yet been involved in the content of the project. The workers' side stressed that the sectoral social dialogue would remain in the hands of the sectoral social partners. UITP confirmed that the social dialogue in public urban transport was autonomous and also expressed their doubts with regard to the methodology and content of the CEEP project.

Participants

Employers (4 ♂, 2 ♀)

Mr Dekindt (UITP)

Mr Juery (FR)

Ms Kerbellec (FR)

Mr Springer (DE)

Mr Tintone (ES)

Ms Vasarainen (FI)

Workers (4 ♂, 4 ♀)

Mr di Santo (IT)

Ms Gällhagen (SE)

Mr Heimlich (DE)

Mr Karcsony (HU)

Ms König (SE)

Ms Malinovska (LT)

Mr Sutour (FR)

Ms Trier (ETF)

European Commission

Ms Durst (DG EMPL/F.1)

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/transport/urban/urban_mobility/action_plan_en.htm