



Minutes of the plenary meeting

27 October 2017

1. Adoption of the meeting's draft agenda and the draft minutes of 30 June 2017

Mr Alfred ROUAUX (CFDT) representing the workers' organisation chaired the meeting. The minutes of the working group meeting of 30 June 2017 were adopted.

2. Mobility Packages – Progress made

Ewa Ptaszynska (DG MOVE C1) presented the state of play of the discussions in the Council and European Parliament regarding the Commissions' proposals adopted on 31 May 2017. It was indicated that the Council started the discussions and that the report by the European Parliament is expected in January 2018.

The main points raising concerns for the social partners could be summarized as below:

a. The flexibility asked by some MS regarding the weekly rest that would be allowed in a vehicle parked at a suitable parking area meeting safety, security and service criteria. ETF made clear that weekly rest in the cabin is unacceptable. Some members of IRU raised also the issue of the criteria regarding the suitability need to be defined and agreed.

b. Regarding the rules for the return home foreseen every 3 weeks, there were diverging views between social partners. For IRU "home" should be defined as the country of establishment of the undertaking. ETF is of the opinion that it should be the private driver's home. ETF also wondered who will pay for the return home of workers.

c. The lex specialis on posting of workers led also to different positions: IRU sent an open letter to European and national decision makers, highlighting that the general Posting of Workers Directive 96/71/EC is not suitable for the road transport sector. IRU therefore called for careful consideration of the industry by taking into account the highly mobile character of road freight and passenger transport operations. IRU Members also claimed that the road transport sector was abandoned in the Council general approach on Posting. ETF asked about the role of European Parliament EMPL committee and whether enforcement Directive 2014/67 would apply to the lex specialis.

It should be stressed that the social partners agreed that discussion within the framework of social dialogue should continue as the best way to address the issues.

Regarding the 2nd mobility package, to be adopted on 8 November, REG 1073/2009 on common rules for access to the international market for coach and bus services was briefly presented.

To be noted that a 3rd package is foreseen by the Commission for first half of 2018.

3. Driver's training: information by DG MOVE on the state of play of the revision of Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of professional drivers

Casto Lopez Benitez (MOVE C2) provided an up-date on the Commission's proposal for amending Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of professional drivers. He recalled that while the 2012 evaluation concluded that the Directive was judged as effective in contributing to road safety, improved labour mobility and the free movement of drivers, it also identified some shortcomings notably that the training content is only partially relevant to drivers; the difficulties for drivers to obtain recognition of the training undertaken in another Member State; some legal uncertainties regarding the interpretation of exemptions and inconsistencies between Directive 2003/59/EC and Directive 2006/126/EC regarding the minimum age requirements. The Council agreed on a general approach in June 2017 and the European Parliament's Committee on Transport adopted its report in October 2017.

Social partners agreed to the aim of improving safety through drivers' training. They asked some clarifications on the proposal such as the duration of the training, minimum age of drivers, e-learning, and the rule for drivers from non-EU member States.

4) Project SPHERE: Information by the Social Partners

Cristina Tilling (ETF) presented the project SPHERE aimed to facilitate the ETF and the IRU discussions on several topics relating to social and working conditions in road transport. She explained that since the adoption of the mobility package by the Commission there is a need to adapt topics identified for discussions, to focus on issues related to the mobility package and its enforcement. IRU and ETF agreed to adjust the topics and time schedule for their negotiation. The workshops are foreseen to take place in 2018 after approval of the Commission.

5) Report from the social dialogue working group on urban transport

Alain Sutour (Chair of the working group on urban public transport) reported on the main activities from the working group on UPT. He indicated the areas of work: promotion of women's employment and gender policy in urban public transport companies; the preparation of a joint opinion regarding the revision of the Public Service Obligation (PSO) Regulation and the recent study on social conditions in UPT; the issues of insecurity in urban public transport and digitalisation in public transport automation. He also debrief about ETF and UITP's request regarding a specific SSDC on urban public transport which was not accepted by the Commission. Instead the Commission proposed to extend the existing working group on UPT by adding one extra working group meeting. He indicated that ETF and UITP will work within this framework but underlined that the aim of ETF and UITP is to have an autonomous committee.

6. SSD Work Programme for 2017 – 2018

The social partners reviewed briefly the progress made with the work programme 2017-2018. They agreed that some adjustments should be discussed between social partners. The secretariats will provide a revised version to be published.

7. AOB

The representative from Nederland presented the recent report regarding violence against women summarising the results of a survey by ETF. The report will be officially adopted on 26 November 2017.

List of participants 27/10/2017

<p><i>Employers (♂ 15, ♀11)</i> <i>IRU</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mr Maedge - IRU2. Mr Kamberski - IRU3. Ms Ollier (BE)4. Ms Spenik (BE)5. Ms De Boeck (BE)6. Mr Saile (DE)7. Mr Kothy (DE)8. Ms Metzler (DE)9. Ms Maitre (FR)10. Ms Laouadi (FR)11. Ms Bastion(FR)12. Ms Doumani (EL)13. Mr Kenanidis (EL)14. Ms Galantino (IT)15. Mr Pardo (ES)16. Ms Ilie (RO)17. Mr Snape (UK)18. Mr Salmon (UK)19. Mr Larsen (DK)20. Mr Davidson (DK)21. Mr Hadrovic (DK)22. Mr Szymanski (PL)23. Mr Nordin (SE)24. Ms Vasarainen (FI)25. Mr Moisio (FI)26. Mr Halvoren (NO)	<p><i>Workers (♂ 15, ♀7)</i> <i>ETF</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mr Parrillo (BE)2. Mr Rouaux (FR)3. Ms Tilling - ETF4. Ms Heinisch - ETF5. Mr Reynaert (BE)6. Mr Kos (AT)7. Mr Mitchell UK8. Mr Seyer (FR)9. Mr Howells (GB)10. Ms Coulet (FR)11. Mr Sutour (FR)12. Mr Garcia Revuelta (ES)13. Ms Paas (NL)14. Mr van Tussenbroek (NL)15. Mr Van Hyfte (BE)16. Mr Overgaard (DA)17. Mr Teunissen (NL)18. Mr Ollas (FI)19. Mr Ryd (SV)20. Ms Kônig (SV)21. Ms Gällhagen (SV)22. Ms Bikova (BG)
<p><u>European Commission</u> Ms Ptaszynska (DG MOVE) Mr Casto Lopez Benitez (MOVE C2) Ms Sylvie Finné (DG EMPL Social Dialogue)</p>	