



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

Working group meeting 26 May 2010

Concise minutes

The meeting was chaired by Mr Causse (employers), chairman of the committee.

Commission consultation on the possible review of the legislation on tachographs

Mr Mayet, Deputy Head of the Land Transport Policy Unit (DG MOVE) informed the social partners on the consultation and impact assessment regarding the revision of the tachograph legislation (see slide presentation). He invited the Sectoral Dialogue Committee to send its contribution before September and asked the social partners to concentrate on digital tachograph issues as the revision does not concern Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 on the harmonisation of certain social legislation relating to road transport. He specified that the idea of remote control was not to establish an automatic sanction system but to better target road side checks.

The social partners benefitted from Mr Mayet's presence to get further information on the background, scope and timetable of the revision, the role of global navigation systems, and on the security challenges for the system. The Commission representative announced that the social partners would be invited to be part of the expert panel which would be set up to prepare the impact assessment accompanying the legislative proposal. ETF and IRU thanked Mr Mayet for the good, thorough presentation which would help them to prepare their joint input.

Discussion of a social partners' joint statement

Referring to the last meeting (8 April), the chairman suggested not repeating the discussion but taking decisions. In order to make progress, the parties agreed to go through the joint draft text paragraph per paragraph ("Draft IRU and ETF joint statement on the review of the digital tachograph regulation", 20 May 2010, drafted by IRU). The objective would be to agree on the content, not on the wording.

The first page of the document was discussed at length. Whilst ETF requested to keep the functions simple, to extend the list of mandatory functionalities and to avoid optional applications (since they would widen the scope for possible fraudulent manipulations), IRU wanted to allow other functionalities (beyond those relating to safety and social rules), provided that the security level would be maintained, that core functionalities

would not be hampered and that the device as a whole would be affordable. ETF reiterated that they did not want a distinction between core functions and optional functions. The digital tachograph should remain a record and control device and not become a platform for any other kind of application. Despite their different views, IRU and ETF agreed to write down a compromise text together, possibly referring to "any future regulatory and mandatory rules" which the architecture should be able to integrate.

The second paragraph after the introduction (page 2, "The need for dedicated specifications and adaptation to technical progress") and the third paragraph were in principle acceptable for ETF but needed to be rephrased. Paragraph 4 ("Integration of its technologies") had to be redrafted. ETF principally agreed with paragraph 5 even if for different reasons. As far as mobile controls are concerned (paragraph 6), ETF specified that these could be a complementary (but not sole) way to control, provided there was a harmonised interpretation of the legislation. The wording of the second sentence therefore was not correct. However, ETF agreed with the content of paragraph 7 ("Field tests").

Both sides agreed to discuss the text again on 8 July and to work on the draft joint text beforehand in order to have a text available two weeks before the meeting (thus on 23 June).

Any other business

The employers expressed once again their wish to being updated, at each meeting, on general employment and social affairs developments by the Commission. The Commission representative from DG EMPL invited the participants again to subscribe to the Social Europe e-newsletter¹ and referred to the regular Liaison Forum meetings where all social partner organisations were informed on current issues². Providing targeted information for each of the almost forty sectoral dialogue committees was not possible; however the Commission representative would try to raise things which might be of interest for the sectoral partners (per e-mail or at meetings). After this, the Commission representative informed the participants of the second stage social partner consultation on electromagnetic field legislation³.

ETF had asked for an exchange of information on the "Isore" project of manufacturers regarding warnings. IRU said they had set together with the project promoter. Even though it would be good to have warnings, these should be given under the right conditions. IRU had not formally endorsed the approach/calculation. This should be done by endorsement officers and the Commission. ETF also had had a first exchange with "Isore" but not yet analysed all the documents provided. ETF reported that the project promoter was surprised that his vision that the driver wanted to be controlled as little as possible was not confirmed by the workers' representatives. ETF intended to provide some input. IRU announced they would share their comments with ETF.

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=371>

² See:
http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/liaison_forum&vm=detailed&sb=Title

³ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=329&newsId=800&furtherNews=yes>

Participants

Employers (16 ♂, 3 ♀)

Ms Antignac (FR)
Mr Askelöf (SE)
Mr Causse (FR)
Mr Firth (UK)
Mr Gentze (DE)
Ms Heitz (FR)
Mr Johansen (DK)
Mr Kramer (NL)
Mr Larsen (DK)
Ms Maître (FR)
Mr Mannaerts (BE)
Mr Nielsen (IRU)
Mr Pardo (ES)
Mr Ribeiro de Campus (PT)
Mr Saile (DE)
Mr Salmon (UK)
Mr Usonis (LT)
Mr Viccars (IRU)
Mr Yarsley (UK)

Workers (13 ♂, 10 ♀)

Ms Chaffart (ETF)
Ms Coulet (FR)
Mr David (LU)
Ms De Roeck (BE)
Mr Garcia Revuelta (ES)
Ms Heinisch (ETF)
Mr Jensen (DK)
Ms König (SE)
Mr Llewellyn (UK)
Ms Malinowska (LT)
Mr Nempon (FR)
Mr Noszkowicz (FR)
Mr Parrillo (BE)
Ms Petrova (BG)
Mr Schönauer (AT)
Ms Smekens (ETF)
Mr Sugic (FR)
Ms Tilling (ETF)
Mr van Hienen (NL)
Mr van Ravesteijn (NL)
Mr van't Veen (NL)
Ms Volkers (DE)
Mr Wolff (LU)

European Commission

Mr Ceuppens (DG EMPL/F.1)
Ms Durst (DG EMPL/F.1)
Mr Mayet (DG MOVE/D.1)