



## 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

#### Steering committee meeting

5 July 2007

#### Concise minutes (adopted on 16 October 2007)

The meeting was chaired by Vice-president Mr Causse (employers). The agenda was adopted (points 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 being ETF's priority items on the agenda). The minutes of the last steering committee meeting and – after small modifications introduced by IRU – the minutes of the 13 February 2007 meeting on social legislation were also adopted.

#### 1. Declaration on illegal employment

The parties discussed the draft common IRU and ETF declaration on illegal employment. The first bullet point on page 2 was changed into: "To provide accurate up to date and ~~more~~ detailed data on employment in the road ~~freight~~ transport sector". It was also confirmed to delete the text in brackets after cabotage, which had been there in a previous version of the text. The objective was to adopt this joint opinion at the latest at the plenary meeting. IRU would submit the final draft to their social affairs committee in September. ETF defended the idea to use the joint text also to fight the phenomenon of false self-employed. IRU confirmed that once adopted, they would put the declaration into practice – however, they stressed that self-employed was not equivalent to illegal.

#### 2. Adoption of the work programme

ETF presented some new proposals to be added to the draft work programme of 12 April, which were discussed. The first point (social legislation) and the last point (public local transport) had already been agreed. As far as training issues were concerned, ETF referred to the lack of professional drivers and proposed to focus on good practices in professional training, by way of a joint project which would in particular look at the role of social partners in professional training. IRU had no objection to this proposal. ETF also proposed a follow-up activity to the joint text on rest facilities<sup>1</sup>, looking particularly at the accessibility (and affordability) of rest facilities. IRU welcomed the proposal. ETF would send the proposal in writing. IRU was also open to discuss the issue of cabotage next year, without any commitment (IRU was only in the process of coming to an internal position on cabotage). The (spirit of the) work programme was hereby adopted.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/dsw/public/displayRecord.do?id=1351](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/dsw/public/displayRecord.do?id=1351)

### **3. Outcome of the working party "Social legislation"**

The parties discussed the draft joint IRU and ETF position on articles and aspects of Regulation 561/2006/EC. ETF definitively stated that they would not like to include the parts regarding Articles 4(g) and (h). IRU still defended the idea that sanctions should be proportional. In the interest of having a joint document, it was decided to leave these points – as well as the ones on Article 9.2 and Article 12 – out of the text. The final version would be sent to the secretariat.

IRU proposed to repeat the successful exercise with a joint text on the digital tachograph. ETF would reply to this request at the beginning of September.

### **4. Follow-up of the declaration on criteria for rest facilities**

An ETF delegate from Estonia reported on the national situation where daily allowances for rest facilities formed part of the wage. In addition, lack of infrastructure would lead drivers of dangerous goods to park on parking places of supermarkets. This deplorable state of affairs should be reported to the Commission. ETF also suggested inviting a representative of the European Investment Bank (EIB) to the plenary meeting in order to discuss whether the social partners' criteria could be incorporated in EIB's investment criteria. IRU welcomed the idea which should first be checked with EIB. IRU supported the idea of further promoting the social partners' criteria and congratulated ETF for its recent action in Valenciennes at the occasion of the opening of a new parking space (SEPTOS).

### **5. Co-operation with the sectoral social dialogue committee "postal service"**

IRU and ETF reported that they went to see the postal service social dialogue in June. So far, it was difficult to see issues which could be tackled jointly. ETF raised the domain of logistics – IRU and ETF should aim at representing the logistics sector in the future.

### **6. Preparation of the plenary meeting**

A first exchange took place on the draft agenda of the meeting, which would further be prepared by the secretariats.

*Annex: List of participants 5.7.2007*

<p><u>Employers</u></p> <p>Mr Burch (CPT) Mr Causse (FNTR) Mr Henry (FNTV) Mr Larsen (DTL) Mr Linssen (IRU) Ms López Leza (ASTIC) Ms Maître (FNTR) Mr Marques (ANTRAM) Mr Ribeiro de Campos (ATNRAM) Ms Pogonowska-Szuszkiewicz (ZMPD) Mr Saile (BGL) Ms Vasarainen (ALT) Mr Viccars (IRU) Mr Yarsley (FTA)</p>	<p><u>Workers</u></p> <p>Mr Benjamins (FNV Bondgenoten) Ms Hertogs (ETF) Mr Holm (observer, Norway) Mr Parrillo (CSC Transcom) Mr Peterson (ETTA) Mr Rasmussen (3F) Mr Wennberg (Swedish Transport Workers' Union)</p>
<p><u>European Commission</u></p> <p>Ms Aufheimer (DG EMPL F/1) Ms Durst (DG EMPL F/1)</p>	