



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 CIVIL AVIATION

Meeting of the Ground Handling Working Group 15 November 2010

Concise summary

The Commission representative was asked to chair the meeting. The agenda containing the point "Discussion of joint input to the possible revision of Directive 96/67/EC on access to the ground handling market at Community airports, based on a table comparing the positions of all organisations and on a first draft text submitted by ETF" was adopted.

Both the table and the draft text had been sent in advance and were presented to the participants by Mr Carmona (ETF). The table was simply reflecting the organisations' positions to the public consultation on the possible revision of the ground handling directive. IAHA had afterwards sent comments to clarify their position. ACI and IAHA had also sent comments on their reflected positions. As far as the draft joint social dialogue input was concerned, the parties decided right from the start not to discuss the wording but to look at the content of a possible joint input.

The parties made general comments on the two documents. The objective was to identify at least one topic out of the seven (derived from the Commission consultation paper) on which a common position could be defined today. The group went through all the items. Asked about points which would be common to all, the parties named the first one (call for tender). Point 4 (liberalisation) was identified as irreconcilable.

In a second step, the parties looked closer at the point on call for tender, considering also the IAHA working document "EU ground handling tender process and selection criteria – need to clarify EU rules" (June 2007) and Regulation (EC) N° 1379/2007 on public passenger transport services by rail and by road¹ (PSO regulation allowing competent authorities to require public service operators to comply with certain social standards).

There was general agreement for the need of a two-steps-approach, the first step being a "health check", the second one containing award criteria. The parties discussed different elements of such an approach. The fear of the workers' side was that social standards be put solely in the second phase. For the employers' side, the "pre-qualification" should not be an access barrier. Also, the airlines asked the workers' side to provide them with concrete examples what they had in mind when referring to "social issues".

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:315:0001:0013:EN:PDF>

In order to advance in practice, IAHA proposed to lay out the principle "pre-qualification plus award" on paper. To avoid lengthy e-mail exchange, it was agreed that IAHA first share its draft with ETF (on 3 December) before sharing it with the whole group (7 December).

The next meeting was fixed for 16 December from 10.00 till 16.30 hrs.

List of participants 15.11.2010

<p>Employers (6 ♂, 1 ♀):</p> <p><u>ACI Europe:</u> Mr Borel Ms Funk (DE)</p> <p><u>AEA:</u> Mr Holzrichter (DE) Mr Husain Khan</p> <p><u>ERA:</u> Mr McNamara (UK)</p> <p><u>IACA:</u> Apologies received</p> <p><u>IAHA:</u> Mr Schmitz Mr Stift (AT)</p>	<p>Workers (5 ♂, 1 ♀):</p> <p><u>ETF:</u> Mr Ballestero Mr Carmona (ES) Mr Collins (SE) Mr Gold (UK) Mr Kronsfoth (DE) Ms Pellegrini (IT)</p>
<p>European Commission:</p> <p>Ms Durst (DG EMPL/F.1)</p>	