



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue
Social dialogue, Industrial Relations

Brussels, September 2011

**SECTORAL DIALOGUE
COMMITTEE
ROAD TRANSPORT**

Concise minutes of the Working Group meeting

4 May 2011

The meeting was chaired by Mr Sugic (workers, chairman of the committee). The agenda was adopted, adding an update on the social partners' STARTS project.

Joint statement on developments concerning safe and secure parking in Europe

Since the document "Draft IRU/ETF joint statement on parking" (2 May 2011) had arrived too late to get it translated before the meeting, the workers' side was not in a position to give a final assessment today. Asked about their preliminary position, the workers' side thought the text was a good basis. However, some points should be reworked, such as the need to also address the Commission (and not only the Member States). The last but one bullet point was not clear. For the employers, this was a call on governments to provide free access to rest facilities; for the workers, the governments were not competent in such a matter. IRU agreed to put out the reference to the employers in this bullet point. ETF asked to establish a link to the Road Safety Action Plan in the text. IRU had some additional proposals to change the draft text. The parties agreed that the role of social partners should also be reflected in the text.

It was agreed that IRU would send their revised text to ETF which would translate it for their members. The text would be finalised until and approved at the next social dialogue meeting, which means that the secretariats would have to carry out some work until then.

Discussion of ETF's proposals concerning illegal employment

For an unknown reason, ETF's new text "Illegal employment in the road transport within the EU - Proposal for the first step discussion within the Sectoral Social Dialogue" sent to the employers the day before had not reached IRU. Therefore, ETF presented the text orally; it contained two cases: one based in the EU and one with non-EU companies and non-EU drivers. IRU thanked ETF for the presentation of these cases and asked ETF to share their documentation whatever ETF was willing to share. It was a common interest to fight illegal employment and to ensure fair competition. For IRU, it was important to know the size of the problem. The employers announced that they would take the issue up in their social affairs working group. Any concrete proof of illegal practices would be helpful. The employers' side referred to situations which might not necessarily contravene the law but would still be unacceptable from an ethical point of view. Discussing moral and ethical issues would however not lead the social partners

anywhere. The issue would be put on the agenda of the next social dialogue meeting again.

In this context, the Commission representative drew the social partners' attention on a tender concerning "A preparatory study for the Commission report on the state of the EU road haulage market"¹.

Any other business

The social partners considered the issues for the agenda of the next meeting which would take place on 5 July 2011: finalisation/adoption of the joint statement on developments concerning safe and secure parking in Europe; Transport White Paper and particular social issues; update on the state of play of the discussion of ETF's proposals concerning illegal employment.

IRU informed the participants on the project "Skills, training and the road transport sector (STARTS)" (VS/2010/0715) which was composed of two pillars: driver training and non mobile logistics workers. The next steering committee meeting was planned for 27 May 2011. By then much more responses were expected to the questionnaire sent out in March. The first workshop of the project would take place on 28-29 June in Brussels.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/transport/tenders/doc/specifications/2011/s75_122097_specifications.pdf

Participants 4.5.2011

Employers (8 ♂, 3 ♀)

Mr Csányi (HU)
Mr Larsen (DK)
Ms Ilie (RO)
Ms Maître (FR)
Ms Mets (EE)
Mr Moisio (FI)
Mr Nielsen (IRU)
Mr Ribeiro de Campos (PT)
Mr Salmon (UK)
Mr Viccars (IRU)
Mr Yarsley (UK)

Workers (13 ♂, 9 ♀)

Mr Chanois (FR)
Ms Coulet (FR)
Mr Decroix (BE)
Ms Gällhagen (SE)
Ms Heinisch (ETF)
Ms Holder (AT)
Ms König (SE)
Mr Mancuso (BE)
Mr Merlevede (BE)
Ms Obez (BE)
Mr Parée (BE)
Mr Parrillo (BE)
Mr Peeters (BE)
Ms Petrova (BG)
Mr Schönauer (AT)
Mr Sugic (FR)
Mr Teunissen (NL)
Ms Tilling (ETF)
Mr van Ravesteijn (NL)
Mr van't Veen (NL)
Ms Volkers (DE)
Mr Wolff (LU)

European Commission

Ms Durst (DG EMPL)