



**Minutes of the Ground Handling Working Group meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> Avril 2019**

The meeting was chaired by Mr Gerad Borel, ACI.

**1. Adoption of the draft agenda**

The draft agenda was adopted.

**2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the last meeting**

The draft minutes of the last meeting of the 30 October 2018 were adopted.

**3. Common minimum standards on training and quality of service**

Gerard Borel presented a draft document on Common Minimum Standards on training and quality of service drafted following the last meeting of the Ground Handling Working Group of the Sectoral Dialogue Committee Civil Aviation.



Training and  
quality standards Gr

A long, detailed discussion took place allowing the social partners to exchange their experiences regarding notably the general (common) and specific content of trainings, the delivery of training (e.g. eLearning), the validation and certification processes, the quality of trainers, the issues of costs and existing national training certificates, ...

It was stressed that quality of services is to be achieved notably through well functioning training schemes. Therefore, both should be developed jointly. Unions also insisted on staffing and job satisfaction.

Gerard Borel concluded that the discussion was very useful to collect different examples on the topics addressed in the draft document. The work will continue between ACI, ASA and ETF, other stakeholders (such as airlines) will be associated at a later stage. A document will be reviewed with the inputs from the discussion and circulated to gather additional views.

**4. EASA work – roadmap and next steps (implementation of roadmap actions)**

The new basic regulation (EU)2018/1139 for the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) establishes new requirements for ground handling services. EASA has tasked a group of experts to set up a roadmap for the implementation of the ground handling requirements. A

conference in March 2019 was the opportunity for all the actors involved in ground handling operations to engage in a dialogue towards the implementation of this roadmap.

It was appreciated that the approach is organised around similar main areas (management System, operational standards, ground support equipment, training and staff turnover) than those developed by the social partners.

Social partners will continue to cooperate with EASA.

## **5. Evaluation of the Ground Handling Directive**

The Commission has launched an evaluation of the Directive 96/67/EC on access to the groundhandling market at Community airports. This evaluation aims to assess whether the Directive has contributed to improved quality and efficiency of services through market opening. An evaluation roadmap was published<sup>1</sup> to gather the views of the stakeholders before starting the evaluation. ETF provided an input notably to stress the need to examine the issue of transfer of staff, included into collective agreements in place in 9 Member States.

The results of this evaluation will help to determine if a revision of the Directive should be envisaged.

## **6. Proposal for a new project under the Commission budget line**

ETF explained the new project being prepared to be submitted by the social partners under the call for proposals launched by the Commission to support the social dialogue. The aim of this project will be to support the implementation of the SSDC work programme for the three working group groundhandling, air traffic management and air crew. It was notably mentioned that violence against women will be addressed as an horizontal topic for all working groups. If the project's proposal is selected, the activities would start beginning of 2020.

## **7. AOB**

The plenary meeting will take place on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2019-414136\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2019-414136_en)

**List of participants 2 April 2019**

<b>7 Employers (7 ♂)</b>	<b>15 Workers (11 ♂, 4 ♀)</b>
<b>ACI</b>	<b>ETF</b>
BE BOREL Gérard	BE BALLESTERO François
CH NOSENT Thierry	BE CARMONA Enrique
BE VAN HOVE Christoph	BE WARNECK Wiebke
DE FRANKE Ekkehard	BE BOUGRINE Fouad
FR ODIN Nicolas	BE CROMBAIN Sophie
	BE VANDEN EYNDE Bjorn
<b>ASA</b>	UK NORBURY Brian
CH CARMICHAEL Stuart	ES QUIROS Israel
FR CAMPDERROS I Jordi JUST	ES CUMPLIDO Patricia
	BE LANGENUS Sandra
	UK HAMNETT Wesley
	DK BAY-CLAUSEN Henrik
	SV NASSAR Chaker
	DE HENGSTER Robert
	IT MODONESI Daniela