



## 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**

**1 July 2008**

#### **Adopted concise minutes**

The meeting was chaired by Mr Sugic (workers).

#### **Evaluation of the work programme 2007-2008**

The social partners went through the current work programme and discussed priorities for the next year. The new work programme would be adopted at the next plenary meeting planned for 31 October.

As for driver training issues, IRU proposed to first defining the social partners' needs and then define the means with which common objectives could best be achieved. For ETF, the problems identified were: lack of drivers, age pyramid, and mandatory training (the existence of the training directive was not to be put into question). The parties discussed pros and cons of a joint social dialogue project on this issue.

#### **Parking areas – focus on availability and affordability**

The parties which had met informally the day before had identified the following priorities: clarifying if adequate rest facilities were a matter of health and safety; joint initiatives to solve the lack of rest facility infrastructure; their affordability; and the promotion of the social partners' joint criteria on rest facilities. Both sides of industry agreed that more pressure should be put on public authorities (which lacked sufficient resolve to deal decisively with the problem) and to avoid the criminalisation of the driver in search for a convenient parking place. Mr Chantraine (DG TREN E/1) invited the participants to have a look at the Parliament's first reading on the draft directive on road infrastructure safety management (especially the annex I and II)<sup>1</sup>.

It was agreed that the secretariats come together quickly to decide further action. IRU announced that it would get a mandate of its social affairs committee in October which

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0303+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

would allow them to adopt the new work programme. It was nevertheless decided to have a discussion at the next meeting planned for 30 September.

### **Outstanding issues connected to driving and rest time rules**

IRU repeated its position presented in March according to which the proposed leave form was not complete. Two elements should be added and it should be possible to send it by fax. ETF would be ready to work on this in September, which would not prevent IRU to go ahead on this issue.

### **Information by DG TREN on the Freight Transport Logistics Action Plan**

Ms Lardi (DG TREN B/3) informed the parties about the Action Plan (Communication from the Commission COM/2007/607<sup>2</sup>) which announced that the Commission would work with the European social partners and other relevant stakeholders to draw up a list of minimum qualifications and training requirements at different levels of specialisation to be incorporated into a framework that can ensure the mutual recognition of training certificates. The Action Plan also foresees the Commission to launch a dialogue with the European social partners to find ways to improve the attractiveness of transport logistics professions, and highlight opportunities for targeting EU Cohesion Policy interventions towards logistics training. The Commission representative asked the parties to update her on latest social dialogue developments with regard to logistics and invited the social partners to set their priorities with regard to the announced measures.

The question was raised how to best organise social dialogue in this (new) sector. IRU declared that they would like to discuss this matter first within its membership and then in a more informal way between Social Partners. According to a trade union representative, the (re)organisation of the sector from the trade unions' side would not be evident either.

### **Any other business**

The meeting in September would address again rest facilities, social rules and the review of the work programme.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/transport/logistics/freight\\_logistics\\_action\\_plan/action\\_plan\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/logistics/freight_logistics_action_plan/action_plan_en.htm)

Annex: List of participants 1.7.2008

<p><u>Employers</u></p> <p>Ms Antignac (AFTRI) Mr Causse (FNTR) Mr Csanyi (MKFE) Mr Kramer (TLN) Ms Maître (FNTR) Ms Mets (Association of Estonian international road carriers) Mr Perolainen (Association of Estonian international road carriers) Mr Salmon (CPT) Mr Viccars (IRU)</p>	<p><u>Workers</u></p> <p>Mr Benjamins (FNV Bondgenoten) Mr Buenestado (UGT-TCM) Mr GarciaRevuelta (FCT-CC.OO.) Ms Heinisch (ETF) Mr Holm (NTF) Mr Palfi (MOSZ) Mr Parrillo (CSC Transcom) Ms Petrova (FTTUB) Mr Schönauer (VIDA) Mr Smidt (3F) Mr Sugic (FGTE CFDT) Ms Tilling (ETF) Mr Varga (MOSZ) Ms Volkers (ver.di)</p>
<p><u>European Commission</u></p> <p>Mr Chantraine (DG TREN E/1) Ms Durst (DG EMPL F/1) Ms Lardi (DG TREN B/3)</p>	