



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions, Adaptation to Change
Social Dialogue, Industrial Relations

RAILWAYS SECTORAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE

Plenary meeting of the committee

22 May 2008

Concise minutes (adopted on 5 December 2008)

(1) Adoption of the agenda

The meeting was chaired by Mr Nigl (employers). The agenda was adopted. The minutes of the last year's plenary meeting (17 April 2007) had already been approved in December.

(2) Information by DG TREN

Mr Castelletti, Head of Unit of the railway interoperability unit within DG TREN, presented the latest sectoral developments. The following debate was about the codification of the current legislation with marginal changes, the next report of the Rail Market Monitoring Scheme (RMMS) which would also cover working conditions, and the proper implementation of working time provisions (no digital tachograph foreseen for the time being).

(3) Presentation and follow-up of the joint recommendations for a better representation and integration of women in the railway sector

Ms Reinhardt (DB) presented the recommendations of 12 June 2007¹ and reminded the meeting that in 2010, a follow-up study would be carried out in order to get an idea on measures introduced by the signatories' affiliates as a consequence of the recommendations. Therefore, it would be sufficient to use the first yearly follow-up as a reminder to implement the recommendations. The proposed questionnaire was thus short and did not enter too much into detail. ETF also had prepared a (short) questionnaire going a bit more into detail. Both sides of industry considered that it should be possible to agree upon one joint questionnaire to be addressed to both companies and trade unions. The chair concluded that this year's questionnaire should also serve as a campaign to further disseminate the joint text. The evaluation should be done by the end of the year.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/dsw/public/displayRecord.do?id=5041

(4) Presentation and follow-up of the recommendations of the European social partners on “Insecurity and feeling of insecurity in local public transport” addressed to the representatives of managements and of trade unions in local public transport companies of 13 November 2003

Ms Trier (ETF) presented the recommendations of 13 November 2003² which had been supported by CER. This text drawn up for the local public transport sector was also relevant for the rail sector. It would be sensible to take it as a basis and to integrate the subject in the rail sector's social dialogue work programme. The relevant working party should prepare a proposal on how to tackle the issue concretely. CER agreed with this proposal and confirmed the usefulness of an exchange of good practices in this area. The subject would figure on the agenda of the next working group II meeting.

(5) Report on the implementation of the agreement on the European locomotive drivers' licence

The joint report on the implementation was not ready. There was still lack of clarity with regard to the validity of the agreement (or what remained valid after the adoption of Directive 2007/59/EC on the certification of train drivers operating locomotives and trains on the railway system in the Community). In conformity with what had been discussed at the steering committee meeting of 18 April 2008 and to maintain the signatory parties' credibility, the chair proposed the following three-steps approach which was inserted in the work programme:

- Identification of the provisions now covered by Directive 2007/59/EC of 23 October 2007 to be directly implemented by the companies: June 2008
- Clarification on how to deal with the issues not covered by the Directive but part of the social dialogue agreement: by the end of 2008
- Identification and discussion of issues dealt with by the Directive but not covered by the social partners' agreement with a view to possibly address new issues: by October 2010.

The first step would take place on 16 June 2008.

(6) Work programme

The parties evaluated the work programme 2007-2008 (reports by the working groups). The new work programme 2008-2009 was adopted with the changes agreed during the meeting.

(7) Any other business

Next planned meetings: 16 June (working group I), 1 October (working groups I and II, tbc), 5 December (steering committee, tbc).

It was decided that ETF would prepare a draft text regarding the future cooperation with the European Rail Agency and to arrange a meeting together with the Commission services to discuss possible informal consultation mechanisms between the social dialogue and the Agency (see also discussions at the last steering committee).

² http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/dsw/public/displayRecord.do?id=71

22 May 2008

Participants:

Employers: Mr Bakalar Mr Blomberg Mr Hara Mr Inglese Mr Leeb Mr Nigl Mr Preumont Mr Raym Ms Reinhardt Ms Streichert Mr Vermeulen	Employees: Mr Africano Mr Armingier Mr Aufrere Mr de Chateauvieux Mr Dera Mr Gamez Mr Karlsson Ms Kremer Ms Lepiksone Mr Marousis Ms Marzola Ms Moberg-Lindwall Mr Nitsios Mr Papp Ms Petrova Ms Tamas Mr Tanner Ms Trier Mr Voitl Mr Wacsin
European Commission: Mr Castelletti (DG TREN E/2) Ms Durst (DG EMPL F/1) Mr Grillo (DG TREN E/2)	