

**SECTORAL DIALOGUE
COMMITTEE
CIVIL AVIATION**

**ATM working group meeting
5 July 2006
Minutes (adopted on 23 November 2006)**

Chair: Morning session: Mr ter Kuile (CANSO), afternoon session: Mr Magee (ETF)

1. Adoption of the agenda and adoption of the minutes of the last meeting

The agenda was adopted after a small change and the minutes of the last meeting (23 February 2006) were adopted. As far as the "draft agreement on consultation arrangements for Single European Sky" (submitted by ETF at the last meeting) was concerned, it was agreed in principle that the parties would agree on it later outside the meeting, after CANSO having considered it.

2. Status report South East European FABA

Mr Boschen (DG TREN), chair of the management board of SEE FABA, gave an overview of the different phases and the structure of the project. A first stakeholder consultation workshop would take place in Belgrade on 21 September. The objective was to conclude the definition phase by March 2009.

The workers' side reiterated its disappointment with regard to the top-down approach of this FAB, referring also to the last social partner statement. Being aware of the difficult political situation, the current plans would nevertheless lead to a disaster if no information was given to the workers at a very early stage. The ETF representatives were also not happy with the fact that the Commission did not refer to the Bulgarian/Romanian initiative "BUL-ROM". Mr Van Houtte (DG TREN) confirmed that the Commission would develop the FAB in line with the bottom-up approach and that it would try to respond to the social partners' request. Mr Boschen recognised the efforts made by the partners involved in the BUL-ROM initiative. He suggested strengthening mutual trust by making a proposal to accept a JATMWG representative at the governing body and for organising a social forum at the Belgrade conference.

CANSO noted that there seemed to be fragmentation among the different national supervisory authorities. The Commission representative confirmed that they were trying to establish coordination amongst them and that some of them needed more resources.

2. Information by DG TREN

Mr Van Houtte and Mr De Vos (DG TREN) presented the latest information about the SES work programme, the SESAR joint undertaking, the development of FABs and the Ecorys report on licensing. The social partners reiterated the need for proper, timely and transparent consultation and decision mechanisms. They called for the respect of the bottom-up approach in all FAB initiatives. CANSO announced it would articulate its position on the mid-term review of the SES at a later stage and was ready to then explore together with the workers' side if a joint review was possible. ETF supported the

extension of licensing to other professions and proposed to discuss the different options of the Ecorys report (such as a competencies scheme and external validation) together with the employers. CANSO expressed its satisfaction of the Ecorys report and confirmed its readiness to discuss the implementation of options 3 and 4.

Both sides of industry agreed to prepare a paper with the proposed points of discussion by the end of August and to convene a small working party early September in order to obtain concrete output by the end of the year. Since the agenda was clear (implementation of options 3 and 4), there was no need to discuss terms of reference.

4. Follow-up of the Palermo Conference

Some wording was changed in the executive summary in order to have consistency with the rest of the report. The report would be published without annexes (the annexes remaining for internal use). The parties agreed to get the report out electronically as soon as possible.

The working group noted with satisfaction that the other social partners had shown their interest in the "just culture" issue at the plenary session in June. The "just culture" working group would now be extended to the other interested parties. It would now be important to see which issues the others would like to bring forward. Since one of the objectives was to organise a workshop, ETF and CANSO thought they should start the preparations and include the other social partners when concretely preparing the workshop.

On FABs, the organisation of a seminar would be reconsidered at the next meeting (it would probably be organised in September/October 2007 only, as Palermo II Conference). According to Mr De Vos, the Commission's communication on the mid-term review would need any external input by the end of the summer. CANSO would prepare a paper which would serve as a basis for a joint social dialogue contribution to the Commission's communication. It would be finalised between the secretariats.

6. Questionnaire gender issues

As agreed at the last meeting, Mr Maguire and Ms Niriada had prepared a joint questionnaire and proposed a joint covering letter (see annex). The parties exchanged their views on the need to include other groups than ATCOs and ATSEPS and agreed to foresee a third category named "others". CANSO would send out the questionnaire to all their HR departments across Europe. Ms Durst (DG EMPL) mentioned the 2007 European Year of Equal Opportunities for All¹.

7. Any other business

The parties exchanged their views about the sense to discuss SESAR issues within the social dialogue. Whilst CANSO thought the ICB was the appropriate place and that SESAR had its own governance, ETF feared the social partners' concerns would not be sufficiently be taken into account at the SESAR working package level. It was agreed to further consider this point.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equality2007/index_en.htm

Mr King presented the conference "SES – Will it work (September 2006 in Southampton) hoping that all partners would contribute.

CANSO was irritated about the civil aviation press release of 30 June 2006 signed by several ETF trade unions because it was mixing up the privatisation of DFS and the Benelux FAB. ETF, while not accepting that CANSO would prevent ETF to release any future press release, explained the background of this paper which was not an ETF statement but a paper from a number of ETF members concerned.

Mr Magee, in his quality as co-chairperson, regretted to announce that Phil James would step down as CANSO spokesman. He was grateful to the effort made by him to understand each other better. Mr James shared the view that Palermo had been a big turning point. Mr Magee also had to announce that Mr ter Kuile would step down as co-chairperson of the working group. Mr ter Kuile explained that CANSO was growing worldwide and announced that Ms Desseaux, responsible for European affairs, would take over the co-chairmanship. ETF thanked Phil and Alexander for their great work.

The next meetings of the ATM working group are planned for 23 November 2006 and 1 March 2007.

Annex: Draft questionnaire and covering letter

List of participants

<u>Employers:</u> Mr Calderin (AENA) Mr Cerny (ANS CZ) Mr Gregory (NATS) Mr James (NATS) Mr Josefsson (LFV) Mr Kavanagh (IAA) Mr Maguire (IAA) Mr Nemes (Hungarocontrol) Ms Rullier (CANSO) Mr Schwendimann (Skyguide) Mr Schwenk (DFS) Mr ter Kuile (CANSO)	<u>Workers:</u> Mr Burgues (ATCEUC) Mr Clarkson (Prospect) Mr Conti (FIT CISL) Mr Etienne (ETF/CFDT) Mr Graham (Prospect) Mr Gustavsson (ST) Mr King (ETF) Mr Kulev (EETU/UTW'sS Bulgaria) Mr Liorzou (UNSA) Mr Magee (ETF) Ms McFadden (ECA) Mr Mircea (ATCOR Romania) Ms Niriada (Impact) Mr Neering (IFATCA) Mr Nicolson (ETF) Mr Radu (ATCOR Romania) Ms Razzano (ATCEUC) Mr Veroft (IFATSEA)
<u>European Commission:</u> Mr Boschen (DG TREN/F.2) Mr De Vos (DG TREN/F.2) Ms Durst (DG EMPL/F.1) Ms Kovacova (DG TREN/F.2) Mr Van Houtte (DG TREN/F.2)	