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Europäische Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Federación Europea de los Trabajadores del Transporte

Brussels, 19 August 2019

Draft Report of the Civil Aviation Section meeting on 20 June 2019

President: Oliver Richardson
Secretariat: François Ballesterro (PS)
Wiebke Warneck

1. Welcome by Livia Spera, Acting General Secretary

Livia introduced herself to the section, she described her career inside the ETF. She explained the change management process of the ETF and said that her priority lies with: how to better mobilise and campaign by using our trade union power on national and workplace level. She also informed the section on the 20 years of the ETF. She mentioned as well the absolute necessity to improve everywhere the ITF and ETF cooperation. The ETF has to keep its autonomy but acting in full coordination and complementarity with the ITF. She explained that the ETF needs to work more on horizontal tasks and notably on the climate change. The structure of the Secretariat should evolve as well according to the political priorities.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The President presented the draft agenda.

The CAS adopted the agenda.

3. Adoption of the draft report of the CAS meeting on 23 November 2018

The President presented the draft report that has been sent out with the meeting documents. He invited the CAS to examine it page by page.

The CAS adopted the report.

4. Reports of the Committees, ITF and ESG

ATMC– update by Charles-André

Updated performance and charging scheme were voted; Target setting for RP3 (2020-2024) was published European wide as well. In the process of defining national performance plan. Proposal of RP3 by PRB was so unrealistic that the Commission had to lower the ambition, but anyway it is still unrealistic (cost reduction and capacity improvements at the same time).

Single European Sky:

Several reports/studies/visions were published during 2019. They are about to defreeze the SES2+ package after Brexit (that would solve the Gibraltar issue). This package was in trilogue after first reading in 2014 and stuck there since. Final compromise is far better than initial proposal (especially on unbundling of services).

Already starting to draft a new SES package (SES3). Roundtables ongoing to discuss the recommendations of a so-called « wise person group ». Many issues for ETF: unbundling of services, role of the Network Manager, market principle introduction etc. A high level conference will take place mid september (DG Move aim to have all stakeholders to sign a declaration there).

Working at the same time on an ICB vision (we had the chair with ETF yesterday).

A specific meeting for ATM experts took place in Lisbon to tackle the issue of unbundling of services.

Social Dialogue:

issues with CANSO that is little by little disappearing from our radar screens; they dismissed their director Europe last year; some staff is left; ETF struggles to keep social dialogue living. ATM has a project about the social dialogue toolbox ongoing (mixed results for the moment).

The involvement in SESAR is improving; participation in some « open days »; following especially projects that could have major social impacts: multiple remote towers, multisector planner, non geographical unit rating, etc.

JAC – update by Kris Major

The change into the joint aircrew committee is positive; the inclusion of pilots in the group is growing.

The EASA Capacity Building Project is ongoing and will end end 2019 with the final conference in Dublin.

The 1008/2008 Regulation assessment is taking a lot of time and is therefore still in a preparatory stage. ETF used the time to develop in a project with Prof. Yves Jorens the concept and definition of “operational base”.

The Social Dialogue meeting the following day will be the most interesting since a while, as it will integrate two new members: A4D and ACP. The SSDC was quite since A4E left, but there was movement over the last 12 months.

GSC – update by Robert Hengster

Katharina Wesenick was elected as new chair of the Ground staff Committee.

Concerning the assessment of the Ground handling Directive several ways forward are possible. Regarding the German situation all collective agreements will expire at the same time; therefore, the way to a national wide agreement is open.

On EASA:

- Ground handling is now covered; employers and workers are working together on the safety of the sector; this is the moment to improve it
- The campaign on unruly passengers should not only cover cabin and cockpit but as well the ground industry
- Multinational companies: we are working on Aviapartner, Swissport and Menzies

Katharina provided information on the LSG campaign fighting against the sale of LSG. She added that we need to have a vision on the development of the GH sector.

Oliver thanked Robert for his work done in the Ground staff committee and welcomed Katharina wishing her good luck. She picks up at a nice moment. The CAS congratulated her.

Women – update by Marit

The Fair Transport Demonstration in Brussels on 27 March supported the “Stronger together” campaign.

A survey on violence against women in civil aviation was conducted and it is a problem that must be dealt with. It will be taken up in the next Social Dialogue project.

The Women’s Committee will elect a new President at the next meeting.

Youth – update by Lisa Gneiße

The Youth committee is doing a mapping on young workers in the sections. They reflect on how the ETF young movement, as done by the young dockers, could be adapted to the other sections. Another discussion taking place is how youth can support the women’s issues.

ITF – update by Gabriel Mocho Rodriguez

Campaigns:

- Delta Cabin Crew – workers are not organised in the US; new stage of support took place in Amsterdam, Paris, Tokio and London
- Qatar airways – Nuria, the ITF representative, is now working in Doha on individual grievances and legislative update and follow-up
- Ryanair – take the experience gained here to Asia Pacific
- Swissport-Chile
- LSG – strikes are planned in the US as well

ICAO:

The ITF tries to be part of the discussion on: ground handling, climate and unruly passengers.

ESG EASA strategy group – update by Nikki Jones

A meeting with Patrick Ky took place on 27 February. A report was already sent.

The Basic Regulation is now included into the EASA structure to work on socio economic factors.

On the EPAS: the delay to make its way into it is unacceptably long.

On FTL: the two groups met jointly.

On the unruly passengers: we think that this campaign must include the ground as well and we are pushing EASA in that direction.

Concerning the EASA capacity project: the final conference will take place in November in Dublin and the key people from EASA will attend.

Concerning ATM-EASA: a meeting between the ATMC and the pilot working group is proposed to be organised in Dublin.

5. Exchange of views with the Commission on its proposals as regards aviation

Flor Diaz-Pulido (Head of Unit) represented the Commission.

She reminded us the high-level conference organised by the Commission on the so-called 'Social agenda report' and the next steps: the social expert group meeting that took place on 5th April. They have decided to work on self-employment and on enforcement. The main stakeholders will be invited to the next meeting in February 2020.

The Commission is now working on the impact assessment of the Regulation 1008/2008 (this exercise will last until June 2020). The Commission also planned to review the guidelines on the Judicial legislation integrating the conclusions of the Court of Justice on the 'Nogueira case' (Rome I and Brussels I).

Then, she explained that the Commission is in the process of signing a contract with a consultant to prepare the work as regards the Directive on GH. She reminded us that the positions are very divergent on this dossier and the Commission wishes to review the evaluation before doing anything else. This evaluation will last one year.

On ATM, she said that she is not an expert and that Christine Berg who is in charge of it will present it at the SD meeting the day after.

Charles-André, Kris, Robert, Katharina and Arnaud asked her specific questions.

6. Results of the EP elections and consequences for the decision-making process

Wiebke made a presentation of the results of the EP elections and the consequences for the work of ETF, particularly the civil aviation section.

PS: The PPT presentation was sent to the affiliates after the meeting.

7. Preparation of the Social Dialogue Committee

The PS took the participants through the agenda. New members will join the SSDC: A4D and ACP. EurECCA will come and will present themselves.

Luigi, Arnaud, Gabriel, Oliver, Kris and Jaime took the floor in the discussion.

The ETF proposes to nominate Charles-André Quesnel as new Chair of the SSDC. It is a political statement; a chair coming from the section which is attacked on the right to strike. The CAS endorsed unanimously this proposal.

8. New ETF project for the Social Dialogue Committee

The PS explained this important project in order to revitalise the social dialogue in all committees and at horizontal level as well. He did not go into too much details as the proposal was already presented in the committees.

We are now awaiting the answer of the Commission.

9. Possible consequences of the Brexit in civil aviation from Unite

The President and Kris presented the current situation and its uncertainty. It also came very clear in their speech that the situation is not favourable for the aviation workers. A short debate took place.

10. ETF-ITF activities on RYR, EZY, Norwegian and OSM

Gabriel already explained the work done on RYR. The PS explained that the affiliates together with the ETF had a meeting on EZY, which helped solving some internal difficulties or representation of the cabin crews. The situation has now improved.

ITF and ETF organised with Parat a meeting in Oslo on Norwegian. The outcome was very good and a new meeting should be organised later this year.

11. Next meeting

The Steering Committee takes place on 18 November in the morning in Dublin, SC colleagues will need to arrive on Sunday. The Committees will take place on 18 November in the afternoon. The EASA Final conference on 19-20 November and the CAS on 21 November (with EN, SP, IT and BG as languages)

The deadline for registration is 15 September.

12. AOB

It was agreed to send a letter to the Atlantic Airways management to defend the jobs of 2 cabin crews, trade union representatives from FPU, who were sacked. A FB post will also be published.