

# ETF, POUR UNE PAROLE DES SALAIRES PLUS FORTE



*Après le rejet par la Commission de la demande de dialogue social individualisé de l'ATCEUC (voir ci-dessous),...*

**Rappel de quelques règles de fonctionnement du dialogue social européen**

**Contrairement aux représentations des pilotes et des fournisseurs de service, pour lesquelles aucune autre organisation européenne ne prétend représenter ces catégories que celles qui participent à titre catégoriel au dialogue social, la catégorie des contrôleurs aériens est déjà représentée par ETF**

First of all, the original and the copy of the letter of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2008 were sent out at the same time. If they did not reach their respective addressees at the same time, this might be related to differences in geographic distance or postal service performance but is out of the control of the Commission.

Secondly, I would like to remind you that the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee on civil aviation has a specific structure deriving from its own rules of procedure which state that the Committee "organises the work to be undertaken on topics jointly identified and agrees, if necessary, on establishing the respective working group(s)". The implementation of the current work programme takes place within four working groups (Just culture, Air traffic management, Ground handling, Air crew), in which the actors participate according to their field of competency. All the social partner organisations participating in the working groups also attend the yearly plenary session. This is the result of the representative status or specific situation of each of these organisations.

You are right in saying that CANSO is representing ANSPs or that ECA is representing pilots; but for the time being, no other European organisation claims to also represent the same category. Thus their participation in the plenary makes a real contribution. The situation is different with regard to Air traffic management (ATM). According to the assessment we have undertaken, the category of air traffic controllers is already represented by ETF. As I mentioned in my previous letter, the participation of ATCEUC would indeed bring an added value on issues related to ATM, and the Commission

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Change  
Réf. DG EMPL - CAD  
Date: 28 AVR. 2008

Mr Volker Dick, President  
Mr François Burgues, Secretary  
ATCEUC/CRNA SUD-EST  
1, rue Vincent Auriol  
F-13617 Aix-en-Provence Cedex 1

therefore suggests and encourages you and ETF to conclude a new cooperation agreement by which you could be appropriately involved in the work on this issue. It is clear that the definition of "appropriate" in this context is subject to negotiation between the parties.

Thirdly, let me clarify the role of social dialogue at Community level. As you know according to Article 138 of the EC Treaty (Title XI: Social policy, education, vocational training and youth; Chapter 1: Social provisions), the Commission shall promote the consultation of management and labour at Community level and shall consult management and labour on the possible direction of Community action before submitting proposals in the social policy field. Therefore, the Commission has established precise rules to identify the representative social partner organisations which are entitled to be consulted under this specific Article of the Treaty.

Moreover, the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committees are established and supported by the Commission as autonomous bipartite bodies allowing for discussions and negotiation between representative social partners (Article 139). It is essential that the parties have the capacity to implement the results of the social dialogue discussion directly. For ATCEUC, I understand that this capacity is limited to questions related to ATM.

In addition to the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committees, the Commission may launch other consultative initiatives or establish bodies involving social partners, such as the social forum held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008 for the preparation of the SES II package. However participation in such consultative bodies is based on different rules from social dialogue as provided for under Articles 138 and 139.

I am at your disposal to meet you together with ETF representatives in order to clarify the situation in detail. Yet I have to reiterate that social dialogue at European level is based on the mutual recognition of all the parties involved, so I strongly invite you to enter into a discussion with your partners to find a solution.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Morin  
Head of Unit

**La commission suggère donc fortement à ATCEUC ... de conclure un accord de coopération négocié avec ETF**

Copy: Mr Daniel Calleja, Mr Luc Tytgat, Mr Koen De Vos (DG TREN)  
Ms Ellen Durst (DG EMPL)  
Mr François Ballesterro (ETF)

*...ETF tend la main à l'ATCEUC, afin qu'un accord de partenariat puisse être trouvé, et que la parole des salariés du secteur ATM soit plus forte (Cf page suivante)*



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European Transport Workers' Federation  
Fédération Européenne des Travailleurs des Transports  
Europäische Transportarbeiter-Föderation  
Federación Europea de los Trabajadores del Transporte

Brussels, April 28, 2008

Volker Dick  
ATCEUC President

Dear Volker,

**Re: ATCEUC request to pa**

*ETF propose une rencontre à ATCEUC,  
Avec pour objectif de mettre en place un nouveau modèle de coopération basé sur l'autonomie et la contribution proactive des deux organisations.  
ETF prône une coopération étroite plutôt que la compétition entre les organisations de salariés.  
ETF propose d'entamer au plus tôt les discussions devant permettre une participation active d'ATCEUC au Dialogue social ATM, et se déclare prête à travailler à une participation d'ATCEUC au sous-comité de dialogue social ATM européen*

With this letter, ETF wishes to extend to you an invitation to have a joint meeting. We share the opinion expressed by Canso and the Commission that ATM social dialogue could be enhanced by the involvement of ATCEUC and we are determined to find a solution to reach this objective.

As we have stated a number of times to different organizations ETF has, for its part, learnt from the failure of the previous cooperation agreement through the ETF/JATMWG. On behalf of all our members, we believe that a new form of relationship has to be established between ATCEUC and ETF, which would be based on the autonomy and pro-active contribution of both organizations.

We have worked with determination to establish a stable European ATM social dialogue, which we value very much, and thanks to the efforts of both Social Partners we have already achieved some significant results. ETF is sure that, like us, ATCEUC would not wish to jeopardize this positive progress and, consequently, will search to avoid any detrimental impact.

ETF will suggest that we envisage the future work with the employers on the basis of a strong cooperation between our two organizations rather than one of reinforcing competition between the two employees' organizations.

ETF agrees with the proposal of the Commission and CANSO that ATCEUC and ETF should begin discussions in order to have an active participation of ATCEUC in the ATM Social Dialogue. Moreover, ETF is ready to be creative to determine a recognized participation of ATCEUC in the ATM social dialogue subcommittee. This will secure stable involvement of ATCEUC in this working party.

I hope that you will consider this letter with appropriate attention and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

**François Ballestero**  
ETF Political Secretary  
Chairman of the Civil Aviation Social Dialogue Committee

Copy to: Jackie Morin, Commission Head of Unit  
Morten Dambaek, Chair European CANSO CEO Committee



President Wilhelm Haberzettl

Vice President Graham Stevenson

General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

