

PARALLEL SESSION: ENSURING DECENT WORK CONDITIONS

Session Conclusions

Date: 04 March 2020 Authors: Alejandra Cruz, Transport Specialist, International Labour Office (ILO)

1. KEYWORDS

DECENT WORK, PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS, SUPPLY CHAIN RESPONSIBILITY

2. TITLE OF THE SESSION

Ensuring decent work conditions

3. TOPIC OF THE SESSION

What is decent work:

- This is freely chosen and productive **employment** with a fair income is the principal way out of poverty and is fundamental to peace and security, and above all to human dignity.
- **Rights at work** help empower individuals to escape from poverty and guarantee a path of development that does not allow labour abuses.
- **Social protection**, both at work and in the absence of work, safeguards against falling back into poverty.
- And **social dialogue** is the basis for democracy and good governance, ensuring the participation of both employers' and workers' organizations in shaping government policies for poverty reduction.

The *ILO Guidelines on the promotion of decent work and road safety in the transport sector* provide a basis to tackle decent work deficits and resulting road safety outcomes in the transport sector.

Other standards, such as ISO 39001 Road traffic safety (RTS) management systems can also provide guidance at the company level to achieve better road safety results.

4. SHORT SUMMARY OF SESSION AND 5. OVERALL MESSAGES

Main opportunities:

- Decent work approach provides a fundamental framework to achieve road safety objectives
- Decent work goes beyond the transport sector, and companies can benefit from managing their own road safety goals
- Drivers are the backbone of logistics operations, including for first and last mile or humanitarian operations
- Driving times, medical examinations and professionalization (training) can pave the way to a better regulatory framework of commercial drivers, including through for example "hooking hubs" (dispatch) or apps
- Incentives for safe drivers, including added insurance benefits
- Increased use of technology can help in achieving road safety objectives and improve working conditions of drivers
- The application of standards can help in identifying hot to improve fleet operations and improve road safety, for example by avoiding that a driver spends 19 hours behind the wheel
- Technology expectations have damaged the image of the sector: the industry needs to be seen as long-term jobs. Autonomous trucks are still a long way down and experienced drivers are retiring and there is an acute shortage of driver that will worsen with time.

Main challenges:

- Fragmentation between government agencies and private sector
- Human behaviour
- Companies seek short-term efficiency without having the long-term picture in mind, this can be costly in terms of road safety and human resources (driver shortage)
- Challenge to contract for remote and rural areas when in reality we would like to have these drivers in our fleet with safer insurance schemes, benefits, and within our driver training programmes
- As an employer, how can you make your whole workforce be conscious about road safety consequences of their driving behaviours?
- Sometimes it's difficult to get worker union support in implementing road safety programmes

6. OVERALL AND 8. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS & 7. IMPORTANT FINDINGS

• Positive road safety outcomes for transport workers and the public only possible through decent work

- Shared responsibility between governments, employers, supply chain entities, workers representatives
- Internationally agreed standards and tools can help in identifying how to improve transport operations and employer fleet use to improve road safety
- Procured transport services should comply with international standards; transport buyers and employers should invest in drivers
- International work-related international road safety strategy needed (one going beyond the transport sector)
- Identify what is within our control and act
- Train, certify, enforce
- Certain companies like TOLL and Unilever are reframing accountability frameworks for road safety and ensuring decent working conditions
- It's important to have smart regulation in place but also build the willingness of all actors to comply and play by the rules.

9. PREPARATION OF THE SESSION

Organizers:

Anders Lie, Special Adviser, Ministry of Infrastructure, Sweden Nhan Tran, Head, Safety and Mobility, WHO

Coordinator:

Victor Pavarino Filho, Brazil Country Office, WHO-PAHO

Rapporteur:

Alejandra Cruz Ross, Transport Specialist, ILO

10.SESSION PROGRAM

Chair and moderator: Alette van Leur, Director, Sectoral Policies Department, ILO

Plan and timing as follows:

| Approx. Time | Topic/Presentation title | Speaker (title, role/position, organisation) |
|--------------|--|--|
| 09.00-09.08 | Introduction: theme, panellists, format, ILO presentation | Alette van Leur, Director, Sectoral Policies Department, ILO |
| 09.08-09.13 | Expert speech: setting the scene | Mr Rob Johnston , Assistant General Secretary, International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) |
| 09.13-09.25 | Panellists round 1: "introductory" question posed to panellists. | Mr Umberto de Pretto, Secretary General, International Road Transport Union (IRU) |

| | In your view, what is the contribution of decent work to achieve road safety objectives? | Mr Salomon Elnecavé Korish, General Director of Federal Motor Carrier Operations, Transport and Communications Secretariat, Mexico Ms Cynthia Jones, Chief, Administrative Services, World Food Programme (WFP) Mr Shaw Voon Wong, Professor, |
|-------------|--|--|
| 09.25-09.45 | Panellists round 2: more "in-depth" question posed to panellists. 4 minutes for each panellist to respond.What are some of the policies, programmes or practices that have been implemented to address the root causes related to crashes, quality jobs and worker road safety? | University Putra, MalaysiaMr Umberto de Pretto, Secretary General, International Road Transport Union (IRU)Mr Salomon Elnecavé Korish, General Director of Federal Motor Carrier Operations, Transport and Communications Secretariat, MexicoMs Cynthia Jones, Chief, Administrative Services, World Food Programme (WFP)Mr Shaw Voon Wong, Professor, University Putra, Malaysia |
| 09.45-09.55 | Interaction: between the panel and the floor. The moderator will invite the floor to ask questions or make comments. Moderator will emphasize that floor intervention should not exceed 1 minute and should focus on specific questions to a particular panellist or the expert. | Questions made by:Official from the World BankGovernment representative from New Zealand (ministry)ACEA safety expertGovernment representative from New Zealand (state agency) |
| 09.55-10.10 | Panellists round 3: take away message – "ensuring decent work conditions". 1-2 minutes each , including expert. | Mr Rob Johnston, Assistant General Secretary, International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) |
| 10.10 | Closing of the session | Alette van Leur, Director, Sectoral Policies Department, ILO |