

ATCEUC IS YOU!



ATM has seen a lot of changes and faced many challenges in Europe and in each different country during the past years. ATCEUC is working hard to protect our members and our profession in this difficult environment. It's not always easy. We are all operational ATCOs with limited free time and resources, when other stakeholders have full time lobbyists and almost unlimited budgets to push for their interests with European institutions and individual governments.

These demanding circumstances require that we operate efficiently to achieve our goals. Better communication among ATCEUC members is essential and this first *Newsletter* is our attempt to improve the dissemination of information and opinions between us all. We hope you will find it informative and worthy of your time. Please send us your comments so as to improve the quality of the material and match your information needs.

Executive Board Meetings

The Executive Board of ATCEUC met twice between the Committee Meetings in Larnaca and Dublin.

The first EB meeting took place in Brussels on 21 November 2012. All EB members were present, i.e. Volker Dick, François Burgues, Alfonso Guerrero Galan, Gianfranco Sacchetti, Nuno Simões, Cristian Radu and Giorgos Georgiou. The discussion was mainly about how to improve our modus operandi, both within the EB and externally in our participation of the various Social Dialogue and Technical bodies in Europe. It was in this context that the preparation of the *ATCEUC Newsletter* was decided.

The EB discussed our participation in SESAR and approved the leaflet on SESAR that was sent to our members. There will be more information on some important issues concerning SESAR during the forthcoming Dublin Committee Meeting in April 2013. EASA NPAs were also discussed, based on the great job the ATCEUC team working on this subject is doing. These Notices of Proposed Amendment will introduce several changes for ATCOs licensing etc and the EB is following the matter closely.

Additionally, there was an exchange of views regarding the definition of an "observer" in Committee Meetings, after the issue that came up in Larnaca.

Regarding CESI, it was agreed that ATCEUC should follow its activities as an observer for one year before deciding what our future relationship with this European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions will be.



The 42nd ATCEUC Committee Meeting in Larnaca, Cyprus, October 2012

A few days after our Larnaca meeting, ATCEUC attended the European Commission conference "Single European Sky, time for action" in Limassol, Cyprus. EU Commissioner Kallas criticized ANSPs and member states for not doing enough to establish FABs and threatened with legal action if deadlines are not met. We also felt the strong lobbying of the airlines towards the PRB and the European Commission regarding RP2 during the Social Expert Group in Brussels on 31 October 2012.

For comments, opinions and suggestions regarding this Newsletter please send an email to board@atceuc.org



On 18 February 2013 the Executive Board met again in Rome. The discussion on improving the efficiency of the EB was continued and specific responsibilities were allocated to each member. We hope to see tangible results in this direction very soon.

Concerning the EASA NPAs, colleagues Carlos Valdrez and Yolanda Moreno presented to the EB the main changes affecting ATCOs, and the position of ATCEUC on several of these amendments was decided. Some issues remain contested even among the EB, so further clarifications will be sought and discussed during the next Committee Meeting.

A definition of who can be an observer in ATCEUC was also finalized and will be discussed in Dublin, so that it can be approved by our members on a later Committee Meeting, according to the Rules and Standing Orders.

Possible ways of action regarding SESII+ and RP2 were also on the agenda; however the discussion was inconclusive. With your feedback, we expect to finalize how to proceed in April, taking into account the results of the study by the Common Action Working Group, decided in Larnaca.

ATCEUC participated in the ATMWP Social Dialogue meeting on 22 November 2012 in Brussels, focused on SES II+. We stressed that ATCOs can and do deliver on performance and that this is a main reason why delays are reducing. ATCEUC pointed out that further delays reduction will only be possible by increasing airport capacity. A follow-up meeting was held on 24 January 2013, but it was mainly about procedural matters. ATCEUC must be represented at all Social Dialogue meetings, even though the outcome isn't always productive.

On 1 February 2013 in Brussels, the 7th Expert Group of the Social Dimension of the SES was a different case. The EC was clear that with SES II+ it wants to see "true market competition" without monopolies in ATM, with better and cheaper services provided to the airlines, which must additionally have the ability to choose the ANSPs they like for any given flight. The EC also wants the delegation of NSA competencies to EASA and the deregulation of so-called ancillary services (CNS, MET, AIS, Data exchange etc.).

ATCEUC replied that this position is offensive for the men and women who do their best 24/7 to serve the airlines. The EC is focusing primarily on performance and cost saving for the airlines and seems to forget that ATM is a complex system with airports, human factors, technology (SESAR) and safety also in the equation. We stressed that ATCEUC will fight the forthcoming Regulation with every means available.



RIVER LIFFEY

DUBLIN

The next ATCEUC Committee Meeting will take place in Dublin on 4-5 April 2013. See you all there!