



# PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION

FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES TRAVAILLEURS DES TRANSPORTS

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## ETF supports French unions' request for a constructive dialogue with French Minister of Transport

### ETF DEMANDS A COOPERATIVE ROADMAP FOR THE FABEC

The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) expresses its support with the strike in France from 23 to 26 February, organised by the French unions representing the vast majority of the French Air Traffic Management (ATM) personnel. Their request to have a real social dialogue in order to find a cooperative solution for the FABEC (Functional Airspace Block Europe Central) is more than justified. The success of this first day of strike shows that consolidation is rejected by the workers. Indeed, the single ANSP (Air Navigation Service Provider) can not ensure safety or cost-effectiveness and has indefensible social consequences. The ETF reiterates its demand to use a cooperative roadmap, the "Co-op Model", instead of a model of consolidation to establish sustainable Functional Airspace Blocks (FABs).

The announcement of the French Ministry of Transport to support the ANSP consolidation in FABEC threatens jobs and employment conditions in the aviation sector. The ETF is convinced that harmonisation of air traffic control is possible with positive social consequences instead of social losses. The ETF acknowledges that FABs can bring additional improvements over time. But the ETF can only support a model that reaches a coherent air traffic control system for Europe which improves safety, increases flight efficiency and secures the social consequences of FAB implementation. Therefore the ETF proposed the "Co-op Model" for sustainable FABs, both for the providers and their employees. **François Ballestero**, the ETF Political Secretary, said: "A constructive political dialogue is needed to establish the FABEC, which should be built through cooperation between all interested ANSPs."

#### The Co-op Model

The model is based on cooperation between ANSPs, and between employers and employees. It consists of Area Control Centers (ACCs) remotely located, but interconnected and operating technically as a single ATM centre. The Co-op Model allows the identification of information to be shared between different ATM systems. Through the Co-op Model, FABs can increase the performance with positive social consequences, improve safety, increase cost effectiveness and reduce environmental impact.

The ETF reiterates its support and solidarity with its members in their fight for safeguarding its members terms and conditions while insuring the highest possible safety level.

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The ETF represents more than 2.5 million transport workers from 225 transport unions and 41 European countries, in the following sectors: railways, road transport and logistics, maritime transport, inland waterways, civil aviation, ports & docks, tourism and fisheries.