



To:
Raúl Medina Caballero
President of the Provisional Council
EUROCONTROL
katia.camarena@eurocontrol.int

Copy to:
Eamonn Brennan
Director General
EUROCONTROL
eamonn.brennan@eurocontrol.int

Brussels, 27 January 2021

EUROCONTROL Fundamental review study

Dear Mr. Caballero,

I am writing to you on behalf of the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), representing 5 million transport workers including approximately 370,000 aviation workers around Europe.

We would like to draw your attention to some serious doubts we have with regards to the fundamental review study and its initial findings delivered by Deloitte at 54th Session of EUROCONTROL Provisional Council held on 26 November 2020.

We would like to express our concerns about the way this fundamental review study has been conducted so far and ask you for clarification on the selection of stakeholders interviewed by the consultants.

As the presentation in the above mentioned meeting clearly pointed out, the study aims to address the scope and the mission of EUROCONTROL and put forward recommendations on its future functioning. As part of the process, over a hundred stakeholders have been consulted. However, to reflect the point of view of ATM staff, the interviews carried out seem to include solely the views of two air traffic controllers' organisations, ATCEUC and IFATCA.

It is not entirely clear to us on what grounds these two organisations were consulted while others have been left out. To make this study as transparent and complete as possible, we are convinced that a broad perspective taking into account diverse views of all concerned ATM key players is absolutely necessary.

In particular, this means including also, and perhaps even more importantly than others,

views of those workers who would be impacted the most should the reorganisation of EUROCONTROL be implemented. Let me remind you that a large share of the workers that would be directly touched by the foreseen changes at EUROCONTROL are not ATCOs, but rather other staff categories working at the ATM field. Clearly, with all due respect to both ATCEUC and IFATCA, these two do not represent the views of non-ATCO staff.

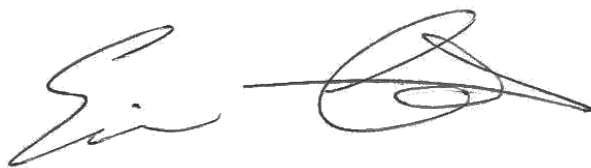
However, if you were looking for a stakeholder who does represent the views of both ATCOs and other workers in the ATM field, we would like to point out to you that the European Transport Workers' Federation as the biggest representative of transport workers in Europe voices the concerns of aviation workers from all its sub-sectors, including those of air traffic management, ATCOs and non-ATCOs alike. Furthermore, we are a recognised and active Social Partner in the Sectoral Social Dialogue for Aviation. As an employee representative organisation, we regularly partake in consultation and formal social dialogue work with the European Commission and other European actors and we provide the views of those working in ATM. Needless to say, we would have been delighted to work with you on this matter.

While we find the whole process around the aforementioned study very disturbing, we do believe that EUROCONTROL is a competent, recognised and trusted entity, able to conduct a study on its own functioning in an orderly manner. We hope that this particular case is just a regretful exception to your work. Rest assured that we see the shortcomings mentioned above as unfortunate negligence rather than a deliberate omission from your side.

Nevertheless, we would like to invite you to shed some light into the process. In particular, we would like to have some clarify on the criteria set prior to the inclusion of stakeholders in the consultation as well as on objectives of the ongoing study in the long-term perspective.

We believe that there is still room and time to rectify the oversights that may have occurred over the past months and put this project on the right track. If the fundamental review study is to be as unbiased and apolitical as it aspires to, then we will be more than happy to take part in it.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eoin Coates', written in a cursive style.

Eoin Coates
Head of Aviation