



## ***For a New Decade of Ambitious and Cooperative EU Sectoral Social Dialogue in Road Transport***

*Co-signed by the EU road transport social partners, IRU and ETF, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the EU Road Transport Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee, European Parliament, 18 February 2020*

The European road transport social partners, ETF and IRU:

**Considering** that the professional road transport industry is the backbone of modern mobility and supply chains, ensuring the movement of people and goods across Europe;

**Recognising** that professional road transport drivers are our sector's most valuable human asset and that we must aim to make the road transport industry a great place to work for all;

**Welcoming** innovation and connectivity that are making our industry better, more efficient and more environmentally sustainable and that are transforming our workplaces and improving safety, working conditions and comfort at work;

**Dedicated** to safeguarding the future of our industry with our drivers – our future mobility captains, who are always at the centre of the essential services that we are delivering to our passengers, customers, societies and economies;

**Acknowledging** the paramount role played by social dialogue as a key building block of the European social model and decision-making and welcoming the recognition of its importance by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, empowering EU social partners to intervene in the formal process of EU social policymaking and to conclude binding agreements among themselves, whilst at the same time promoting and facilitating social dialogue in full respect of social partners' autonomy;

**Fully aware** of their mission and mandates as the representative organisations of road transport employers and employees to responsibly represent and advance their members' interests at the EU level in the most cooperative and socially responsible way;

**Proud** of the legacy of their joint work within the EU's road transport sectoral social dialogue, having one of the most dynamic, longest and richest traditions of partnership and structured employee-employer's dialogue that has resulted in numerous achievements, such the ETF and IRU joint contributions to and statements on the further opening of the EU road haulage market (2012), the EU Road Transport Agency (2014), on services offered by commercial transport intermediaries (2018), on enforcement in the digital age (2018), and most recently, on safe and secure truck parking areas (2019);

**Publicly and solemnly renew their commitment** as the responsible EU road transport social partners to jointly accompany and lead the transformation of the road transport sector. Together, we will address, in a cooperative and constructive way, the industry's current and future challenges. Namely working conditions and quality of jobs; the increasingly acute driver shortage and the severe lack of young people and women in the sector; the barriers to accessing the driver profession and vocational training; the rapid digitalisation and automation of our profession and its image; and society's priorities in terms of sustainability, including environmental sustainability. We commit to the responsibilities conferred upon us by our mandate for the benefit of our industry's members and the benefit of EU citizens and society at large.

**For IRU:**

**For ETF:**