

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: lundi 10 mai 2021 16:40
To: PEREIRA Ana Carla (CAB-SCHMIT); OLSSON Stefan (EMPL); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: FLASH REPORT – Meeting between Cmsr SCHMIT and Dara KHOSROVSHAHI, CEO of UBER – 26/04/2021

Dear all,

Please find below a flash report on the meeting between Cmsr SCHMIT and Uber's CEO, which took place on 26 April.

Best,
[REDACTED]

FLASH REPORT – Meeting between Cmsr SCHMIT and Dara KHOSROVSHAHI, CEO of UBER – 26/04/2021

Participants:

European Commission

- Nicholas SCHMIT, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights
- Antoine KASEL, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner SCHMIT
- Santina BERTULESSI, Deputy Head of Cabinet of Commissioner SCHMIT
- Ana Carla PEREIRA, Employment and Social Adviser to Commissioner SCHMIT
- Anouk FABER, Political Adviser to Commissioner SCHMIT
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Uber Technologies Inc.

- Dara KHOSROVSHAHI, CEO
- Andrew BYRNE, Global Head of Public Policy
- Zuzana PUCIKOVA, Head of EU Public Policy

Main takeaways:

- Cmsr SCHMIT said that COM is favourable to the platform economy, its development and benefits brought to jobs, the economy and consumers who appreciate the services.
- Cmsr SCHMIT pointed out that the social and legal environment within which the platform economy is developing ought to be addressed, to make sure that it follows a path that is sustainable for workers, platforms and society at large.
- Cmsr SCHMIT thanked Dara KHOSROVSHAHI for sharing Uber's White Paper and acknowledged its contribution to the debate.

- Cmsr SCHMIT then asked Dara KHOSROVSHAHI for his views on the employment status and algorithmic management, referring to the extensive number (100+) of court cases concerning platform work in Europe.
- Dara KHOSROVSHAHI stressed that social issues in the platform economy ought to be tackled through dialogue. He underlined that Uber wants to pursue a policy framework enabling both flexibility and protection.
- Dara KHOSROVSHAHI said Europe is an incredibly important market for Uber and that platforms can and should be part of the post-Covid economic recovery picture. According to Uber's internal figures, 40% of UberEats couriers use the platform to compensate income losses due to the pandemic.
- Going forward, Uber aims at legal clarity, policy consistency and a level-playing field between platforms. From their viewpoint, job flexibility should not come at the expense of social protection, and vice versa, although there are trade-offs between the two that ought to be assessed through dialogue.
- Dara KHOSROVSHAHI asked how EU Member State are approaching the EU initiative and how do they see their own role in the process.
- Cmsr SCHMIT explained that indeed creating a level-playing field between different companies and businesses is among the objectives of the EU initiative, including in the domain of social policy. In this regard, Member States have ample freedom to set their own rules but there should be a minimum floor of EU standards.
- Cmsr SCHMIT finally asked Dara KHOSROVSHAHI whether the UK Supreme Court ruling came as a surprise and whether it will substantially impact Uber's business model.
- Dara KHOSROVSHAHI said the ruling was indeed surprising but that the UK's third category status of 'worker' allows for both flexibility and social protection. However, the ruling only concerned Uber, which means they are now disadvantaged vis-à-vis other platform players.