

## **ANTT and the Ministry of Transportation highlight the benefits of TCU's actions**

TCU participated in the debate on the highway concession program on Tuesday the 28th, in a public hearing at the House of Representatives.

The Secretary for Control of Privatization (Sefid), Adalberto Santos de Vasconcelos, submitted to the representatives measures deployed by the Court, which have improved the model of federal highways concessions and reduced toll fees. During the meeting, at the Road and Transportation Committee, the president of the National Inland Transportation Agency (ANTT), Bernardo Figueiredo, highlighted the benefits of the joint action with the Court. "The new model was widely discussed with TCU. The quality of the first process was quite different. The surveys went through deep improvements by means of TCU's performance."

Currently in its third stage, the federal highways concession program forecasts, for this phase, investments of over 8 billion Reals in the Highways BR-040/DF-MG, BR-381/MG and BR-116/MG, according to information provided by the Ministry of Transportation. Studies by TCU also introduced the possibility of a five-year review of the contract, in accordance with the concessionaire's remuneration, as emphasized by Figueiredo.

Two other modifications proposed are the adequacy of the service to the users' needs, with risks of such adequacy undertaken by the concessionaire, and the potential inclusion of non-forecasted investments, considering the impacts on the toll fees.

Even though in its third phase of concessions, the previous contracts are being revised, as a result of the improvements carried through. According to the national secretary of Transportation Policies, Marcelo Perrupato, "the adjustments are happening on both sides: TCU's inquiries and information we have been collecting in hearings."

The Court's goal is to contribute for the quality of the services rendered and to make sure the costs transferred to users, by means of toll fees, are not excessive. An example, according to the Secretary of the Sefid, is TCU's decision to offset the users' costs by reducing fees as a result of the additional traffic in the Dutra Highway in the city of Jacareí, Rio de Janeiro.

The internal return rate (TIR), which indicates the financial payback expected for the concessionaire, is around 8%. The president of the concessionaire Nova Dutra, Maurício Negrão, states that 70% of the company's revenue comes from the payment of toll fees by trucks, which represent less than 10% of the traffic.