



TIR Consultation Mechanism- Country Experience

Since Turkey has been involved with the TIR System as from 1966, the Ministry of Customs and Trade was accordingly granted the authorization to deal with the procedures laid down by the TIR Convention.

In this respect, with a view to fulfilling its task efficiently, the Ministry is regularly organizing TIR Coordination Meetings each time before the Geneva meetings with a view to determine the country policy for specific issues.

Even before the coordination meeting, deliberations are launched with a written procedure asking for opinions, suggestions and proposals of all relevant institutions/organizations as regards the TIR practices as well as the agenda of the Geneva meetings.

In this regard, competent authorities convene representing government agencies as the Ministry of Customs and Trade, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as those private sector organizations related with TIR practices such as the national guaranteeing association (TOBB) and international transportation association (UND).

Besides, different departments affiliated to relevant Ministries/institutions are invited to participate the coordination meetings to deliver their opinions.

Within the Ministry of Customs and Trade, representatives of the Directorate General for EU and External Relations, the Directorate General of Customs, the Directorate General of Risk Management and Control as well as the Department of Information Technology meet regularly before the Geneva meetings. Where needed, representatives of different departments are also invited to participate such meetings.

These meetings enable all stakeholders to present their inputs as a means to determine the official position of the country.

Both official minutes of the Geneva meetings (reports of WP.30, AC.2 and ad hoc working groups) and the internal meeting report submitted by the Turkish delegation following the mission are checked prior to the upcoming meeting, so as to evaluate the state of play and to pinpoint the tasks to be completed.

Moreover, the results of the tasks mentioned in the reports of the previous meetings and the deadlines stipulated for the submission of papers and positions to the TIR Secretariat are discussed and reviewed during the coordination meetings. Besides, amendments for the TIR



Convention and the recommendations are revisited to verify their full implementation at national level.

Furthermore, decisions taken and necessary actions decided at the coordination meetings are enlisted in the minutes, and transmitted to the relevant national/international organizations to conduct the national policy.