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**Economic Commission for Europe****Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975****Seventy-seventh session**

Geneva, 9–10 (a.m.) February 2022

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda****Annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-seventh session<sup>\*,\*\*</sup>**

to be held virtually and in-person at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 9 February 2022 and finishing around 12 a.m. on Thursday 10 February 2022, Room TPS 3, subject to confirmation.

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Status of the TIR Convention, 1975.
4. Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board:
  - (a) Activities of the TIR Executive Board:
    - (i) Report by the Chair of the TIR Executive Board;
    - (ii) Implementation of the intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention;
    - (iii) International databases and electronic tools managed by the TIR secretariat;

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\* For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. There will be no official documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents may be obtained directly from the ECE Sustainable Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; email: [wp.30@un.org](mailto:wp.30@un.org)). Documents may also be downloaded from the ECE Border Crossing Facilitation website [www.unece.org/trans/bcf/welcome.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/bcf/welcome.html). During the meeting, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

\*\* The full text of the TIR Convention, 1975, as well as a complete list of contracting parties to the TIR Convention, are available on the ECE website: [www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html#customs](http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html#customs). Delegates are requested to register online at: [uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=d\\_HYpW](http://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=d_HYpW) at the latest one week prior to the session. All in-person attending delegates (including those holding long-duration badge), should register through INDICO badge system: <https://indico.un.org/event/36266/> and obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the ECE secretariat (internal extension 75975). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website [www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html).

- (iv) National and regional TIR workshops and seminars.
- (b) Administration of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat:
  - (i) Status report on the accounts for the year 2021;
  - (ii) Procedure for financing the operation of the TIR Executive Board and TIR secretariat.
- 5. Revision of the Convention:
  - (a) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by the Working Party;
  - (b) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by the TIR Executive Board;
  - (c) Accepted amendment proposals to the Convention pending formal adoption.
- 6. eTIR.
- 7. Authorization for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system:
  - (a) Prolongation of the authorization;
  - (b) Audit report for the year 2020.
- 8. Agreement between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union.
- 9. Audit of the accounts of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat.
- 10. Other business:
  - (a) Date of next session;
  - (b) Restriction on the distribution of documents;
  - (c) List of decisions.
- 11. Adoption of the report.

## **II. Annotations**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Committee may wish to consider and adopt the agenda of the session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/156). The Committee will be informed that, according to Annex 8, Article 6 of the TIR Convention, 1975, "a quorum consisting of not less than one-third of the States which are contracting parties is required for the purpose of taking decisions". The number of States which are contracting parties to the convention is seventy-six.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/156

### **2. Election of officers**

In accordance with the Committee's rules of procedure and established practice, the Committee should elect a Chair and, possibly, a Vice-Chair for its sessions in 2022. Contracting parties are strongly encouraged to nominate candidates for either post in order to facilitate the election process.

### **3. Status of the TIR Convention, 1975**

The Committee will be informed about changes in the status of the Convention and in the number of contracting parties. The Committee may wish to be informed that the TIR

Convention has seventy-seven contracting parties and that the TIR system is operational in sixty-five countries. In particular, the Committee may wish to be informed that, on 4 November 2020, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, issued the following depositary notifications: (i) C.N.513.2020.TREATIES-XI.A.16, informing of the submission of various proposals to amend the body and annexes of the TIR Convention, 1975, including those that make the electronic submission of data to ITDB obligatory. In accordance with the provisions of Article 59 (3) of the Convention, the amendments would enter into force on 4 February 2022, unless an objection has been communicated to the Secretary-General not later than by 4 November 2021; (ii) C.N.370.2021.TREATIES-XI.A.16 of 15 November 2021, informing that, by 4 November 2021, none of the Parties had communicated an objection to the various proposals to amend the body and annexes of the TIR Convention, 1975, including those that make the electronic submission of data to ITDB obligatory. Consequently, in accordance with the provisions of article 59 (3) of the Convention, the amendments shall come into force with respect to all Parties to the Convention on 4 February 2022 and (iii) C.N.99.2021.TREATIES-XI.A.16 of 25 March 2021, informing of the submission of a proposal to amend Article 18 and Annexes 1 and 6 of the TIR Convention, 1975. In accordance with the provisions of Article 59 (3) of the Convention, the amendments shall enter into force on 25 June 2022, unless an objection has been communicated to the Secretary-General not later than by 25 March 2022. More detailed information on depositary notifications is available on the TIR website.<sup>1</sup>

#### **4. Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board**

##### **(a) Activities of the TIR Executive Board**

##### **(i) Report by the Chair of the TIR Executive Board**

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 11, paragraph 4 of the Convention and in line with the decision of the Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/55, paras. 14 and 15), the secretariat has reproduced the report of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) at its eighty-ninth session (July 2021), for information and endorsement by the Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/1). More information about recent activities of TIRExB as well as about various considerations and decisions taken at its ninety-first (February 2022) session will be provided orally by the Chair of TIRExB.

Under this agenda item, the Committee will also be invited to take note of Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 1 by IRU, with the latest statistics of TIR Carnets distribution to national associations.

##### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/1, Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 1

##### **(ii) Implementation of the intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention**

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to take note of a report by TIRExB on the implementation of the intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention, contained in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 2.

##### **Documentation**

Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 2

##### **(iii) International databases and electronic tools managed by the TIR secretariat**

The Committee will be informed about developments related to the International TIR Data Bank (ITDB) and other information technology projects managed by the TIR secretariat, if any.

<sup>1</sup> [www.unece.org/tir/tir-depositary\\_notification.html](http://www.unece.org/tir/tir-depositary_notification.html).

**(iv) National and regional TIR workshops and seminars**

The Committee will be informed about TIR workshops and seminars conducted and/or planned, if any.

**(b) Administration of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat****(i) Status report on the accounts for the year 2021**

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 11, paragraph 4 of the Convention, TIRExB shall submit audited accounts to the Committee at least once a year or at the request of the Committee. As the competent Finance Services of the United Nations will not be able to formally finalize the accounts for 2021 by the time the Committee meets in February 2022, the report on the complete and final accounts will be transmitted, as in the past, to the next session of the Committee in 2022 for formal approval.

**(ii) Procedure for financing the operation of the TIR Executive Board and TIR secretariat**

The Committee may wish to recall that the budget and cost plan for the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2022 were approved by the Committee at its previous session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155, para. 14). The Committee will be informed about the transfer of the required funds for the year 2022 by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) to the TIR trust fund. At its previous session, the Committee also approved the amount per TIR Carnet (\$2.25 (rounded) (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155, paras. 15 and 16).

In addition, the Committee may wish to recall the procedure for the collection and transfer of the amount per TIR Carnet to finance the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/145, para. 57 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2019/24, Annex II), according to which:

"...

(8) IRU maintains a separate account detailing the number of TIR Carnets distributed and the related amounts referred to in Annex 8, Article 13, paragraph 1 received;

(9) The IRU independent external auditor produces an audit certificate providing an opinion of the above-mentioned account for the year in question showing the amount transferred and the total amount actually invoiced (15 January);

(10) The difference between the two amounts will need to be adjusted a posteriori;

(11) On the basis of the above-mentioned audit certificate, if the amount invoiced was more than initially transferred by IRU, the Administrative Committee, at its spring session, will be informed and IRU shall transfer the excess to the UNECE named bank account (before 15 March). This amount will be reflected in the UNECE TIR accounts to be taken into account for the next budget year;

(12) On the basis of the above-mentioned audit certificate, if the amount invoiced was less than initially transferred by IRU, the Administrative Committee will reflect this amount in the amount per TIR Carnet to be applied in the next budget year to compensate the difference and ensure the financing of the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat. If the amount invoiced is less than initially transferred by IRU to ensure the funding of the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the last year of the ECE/IRU agreement, or on the termination of the same, the difference will be absorbed by IRU without recourse."

In view of the above, the Committee will be informed of the audit certificate for the year 2021 and will be invited to approve the appropriate action according to items 11 or 12 of the above procedure. The Committee is also invited to take note of a letter by IRU on financing the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for 2022 in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 3.

**Documentation**

Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 3.

## 5. Revision of the Convention

### (a) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by the Working Party

Under this agenda item, the Committee is invited to recall that, at its previous session, it endorsed the following (new or updated) comments: (i) comment to Article 18 “Several customs offices of departure and/or destination”; (ii) comment to Annex 6, Explanatory Note 0.8.3; (iii) comment to Annex 6, Explanatory Note 0.49; and (iv) comment to Annex 9, Part II “Model Authorization Form (MAF)” and decided that they will be applicable only as of the moment that the corresponding amendment proposals to the Convention enter into force (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155, paras. 18 and 19).

The Committee is further invited to endorse the updated comment to Article 18 “Possibilities of increasing the total number of loading and unloading points to more than eight in exceptional cases, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/2 and decide that it will be applicable only as of the moment that the corresponding amendment proposal to the Convention enters into force, viz. 25 June 2022.

The Committee may wish to take note that, for the time being, no further amendment proposals have been transmitted by the Working Party for consideration.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/2

### (b) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by the TIR Executive Board

The Committee may wish to recall that, at its previous session, it considered document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2021/4 by IRU, presenting an analysis of the messages exchanged in the framework of the eTIR specifications, but could not reach agreement, due to the technical nature of the issues at stake. It requested the secretariat to transmit the document to the Technical Implementation Body (TIB) for further assessment, inviting the Turkish delegation, which stressed the need for full compliance of the proposal with the provisions of the TIR Convention, as well as others, to submit their comments to the secretariat no later than by 7 November 2021, so that they could be transferred to TIB for consideration. TIB was requested to transmit its findings to the Committee for final approval, including, potentially, issues of a legal nature that needed to be addressed by the Committee itself (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155, paras. 21 and 22).

The Chair of TIB will brief the Committee about its findings, if any.

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to recall that, at its seventy-fourth session (February 2021), it discussed a proposal by the Romanian customs administration for a new Explanatory Note to Article 6, paragraph 2 (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/151, para. 35). The Committee requested TIRExB to study the proposals as contained in paras. 1–4 of Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2021) No. 6, while disregarding the proposal contained in para. 5, as it was still under internal consideration (see Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2021) No. 6/Corr.1). Against this background, the Committee may wish to take note of Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 4, transmitting a letter of 19 October 2021 by the Romanian customs administration, in which it officially informs of the withdrawal of the proposal contained in para. 5 of Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2021) No. 6.

The Committee may wish to take note that, for the time being, no further amendment proposals have been transmitted by TIRExB for consideration.

#### Documentation

Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2022) No. 4

### (c) Accepted amendment proposals to the Convention pending formal adoption

The Committee may wish to take note that, for the time being, there are no outstanding accepted amendment proposals pending formal adoption by the Committee.

## 6. eTIR

The Committee will be informed about the latest developments in the field of computerization of the TIR procedure (eTIR). In particular:

(a) the latest developments of the eTIR international system and the ongoing eTIR interconnection projects;

(b) the outcome of the first session of TIB, which took place on 18–21 January 2022 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2), and, in particular, version 4.3 of the eTIR technical specifications, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/5-ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/14;

Furthermore, in line with Annex 11, Article 5, the Committee will be invited to adopt (by a majority of contracting parties bound by Annex 11, present and voting) version 4.3 of the conceptual and the functional specifications of the eTIR procedure, contained in documents ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3-ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/12 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/4-ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/13. The Committee will also be invited to take note of version 4.3 of the introduction to the eTIR specifications contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/2-ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/11.

### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/2-ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/11;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3-ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/12;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/4-ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/13,  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/5-ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/14

## 7. Authorization for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system

### (a) Prolongation of the authorization

The Committee may wish to recall that, at its previous session, it decided to agree to prolong the authorization of IRU for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system for, provisionally, a period of 3 years (2023–2025), subject to official confirmation at its February 2022 session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155, para. 27).

The Committee is invited to take a formal decision about the prolongation of the authorization of IRU for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system, for a period of 3 years (2023–2025).

### (b) Audit report for the year 2020

The Committee may wish to recall that, pursuant to Annex IV of the agreement between ECE and IRU, IRU shall annually issue an audit report and management letter concerning the records and accounts kept by IRU pertaining to the organization and functioning of the international guarantee system and the printing and distribution of TIR Carnets.

Due to the absence of the audit report as official document at its previous session, the Committee is invited to consider, at its present session, document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/3 by IRU, containing the audit report and management letter for the year 2020.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/3

**8. Agreement between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union**

The Committee may wish to recall that, at its previous session, it mandated the secretariat to prepare, in consultation with IRU and the competent United Nations services, a new draft ECE/IRU agreement, covering the same period of time as the authorization (viz. 2023–2025) for consideration and, possibly, adoption at its current session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/155).

The Committee is invited to consider and, possibly, adopt document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/4, containing the draft ECE/IRU agreement for the years 2023–2025.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/4

**9. Audit of the accounts of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat**

The secretariat will brief the Committee, if possible, about the closing of recommendation No. 6 by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS). In particular, the secretariat will inform the Committee that, on 22 November 2021, ECE and IRU signed the new MoU to implement the TIR Convention and, more specifically, Annex 11 of the TIR Convention, establishing the so-called eTIR procedure, by ensuring the interconnection of IRU systems to the eTIR international system, as well as the interconnection of as many as possible national customs systems to the eTIR international system, following the eTIR technical specifications (see Article 1.1. of the MoU, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2021/8).

As part of the new MoU, the Committee shall consider and endorse the annual workplan of the P3 Information Systems Officer staff member, hired against the funds provided by IRU under the MoU. The Committee is invited to consider and, possibly, endorse the annual workplan of the P3 Information Systems officer staff member for the year 2022, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/5

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/5

**10. Other business****(a) Date of next session**

The ECE secretariat has made tentative arrangements to hold the seventy-eighth session of the Committee in the week of 10–14 October 2022, subject to potential adjustments due to the ongoing COVID pandemic and the United Nations liquidity crisis.

**(b) Restriction on the distribution of documents**

The Committee may wish to decide whether there should be any restriction on the distribution of documents issued in connection with its current session.

**(c) List of decisions**

The secretariat will prepare a list of draft decisions that will be circulated among delegations prior to the session. The list of adopted decisions will be attached to the final report.

## **11. Adoption of the report**

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 7 of the convention, the Committee will adopt the report of its seventy-seventh session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

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