



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

#### Eighty-second session

Geneva, 8 February 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### **Annotated provisional agenda for the eighty-second session\*,**

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to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Thursday 8 February 2024, at 10 a.m., Room XXIV

## **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) International TIR databank (ITDB);
    - (iii) National and regional TIR workshops and seminars.
  - (b) Administration of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat:

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\* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.

\*\* 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, documents may be obtained directly from the ECE Sustainable Transport Division (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).

\*\*\* 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: <https://indico.un.org/event/1007027/> at the latest one week prior to the session. and delegates who do not hold a long-term access badge should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the at the Peace Gate (8, 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 [www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html](http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html).



- (i) Status report on the accounts for the year 2023;
  - (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) Comments and examples of good practice transmitted by the TIR Executive Board;
  - (d) Accepted amendment proposals to the Convention pending formal adoption.
- 6. eTIR.
  - (a) eTIR international system and its interconnection with national customs systems;
  - (b) Activities of the Technical Implementation Body;
  - (c) Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union.
- 7. Authorization for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system:
  - (a) Prolongation of the authorization;
  - (b) TIR carnet new lay-out – Prolongation of a transitional period.
- 8. Other business:
  - (a) Date of next session;
  - (b) Restriction on the distribution of documents;
  - (c) List of decisions.
- 9. 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.2/166). 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-seven.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/166

### **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 2024. 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 note that, in accordance with its Article 53, paragraph 2, the Convention entered into force for Iraq on 27 September 2023. With the accession of Iraq, the TIR Convention now has seventy-eight contracting parties. Since the activation of the system for Qatar, TIR operations can be established with sixty-five countries. Detailed information on this issue as well as 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 reports of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) at its ninety-seventh (June 2023), ninety-eight (October 2023) and ninety-ninth (December 2023) sessions, for information and endorsement by the Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/1, ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/2). More information about recent activities of TIRExB and specifically the latest session of the board that took place on December 2023, will be provided orally by the Chair of TIRExB. The committee might wish to take note of Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 1 and Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 2 submitted by IRU, which contains the TIR carnet distribution prices as of January 2024 and the Statistics of TIR Carnets distribution to national associations (2001–2023) respectively.

##### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/2; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 1; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 2

##### (ii) International TIR databank (ITDB)

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

##### (iii) 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 2023

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 2023 by the time the Committee meets in February 2024, the report on the complete and final accounts will be transmitted, as in the past, to the next session of the Committee in 2024 for formal approval.

##### (iii) 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 2024 were approved by the Committee at its previous session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/165, para. 24). The Committee will be informed about

<sup>1</sup> <https://unece.org/transport/tir>.

the transfer of the required funds for the year 2024 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 (\$2.70 (rounded) (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/165, para. 25).

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:

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(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 this 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 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/4) for the year 2023 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 2024 in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 3.

Under this agenda item, the Committee may also wish to recall that at its October 2022, it mandated the secretariat to discuss, on its behalf, with IRU the issue of past and, potentially, future deficits, on the understanding that, in accordance with the newly introduced provisions 4 of the preamble of the Agreement and 12 of its Annex II, for the last year of this ECE/IRU Agreement, the deficit should be absorbed by IRU without recourse, parties settle the issue through mutual consultation and report to the Committee at its last session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/159, para. 27).

The secretariat considered that the tasks of finetuning the implementation of the current agreement between ECE and IRU and on exploring options to co-finance the TIR secretariat from funds additional to those collected by means of an amount per TIR Carnet, require legal expertise, which is currently lacking within the TIR secretariat. The secretariat informed TIRExB on this issue, requesting the approval of the hiring of a consultant / legal expert to assist the secretariat on this endeavour. TIRExB approved the request (TIRExB/REP/2023/95, para 30) and the consultant was hired.

The Committee will be informed about the latest developments on this consulting project and if feasible, an informal document will be prepared summarizing those developments.

#### **Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/4; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 3

## 5. Revision of the Convention

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

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to take note that, for the time being, no amendment proposals have been transmitted by the Working Party for consideration.

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

The Committee may wish to recall that at its previous session considered document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10, which included amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by TIRExB, as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10.

The Committee may wish to recall that agreed with the amendments proposed in chapters II.3 and II.4 of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10, i.e., the prolongation of the validity of the certificate of approval to three years and the acceptance of the certificate of approval until the last date of validity.

However, regarding the new Explanatory Note 8.10 (e) and the Explanatory Note 0.6.2 bis-1, on the basis of a proposal made by the Russian Federation, the Committee agreed on a revised version of the text proposed by TIRExB.

The Committee mandated the secretariat to include the four amendments in a revised document to be submitted at its next session, thus providing a last opportunity to further improve the wording of the amendments and, possibly, include them in a wider amendment package to be transmitted to the depositary. The Committee may wish to consider and adopt document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10/Rev.1, which includes the four amendments.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10/Rev.1; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/10

### (c) Comments and examples of good practice transmitted by the TIR Executive Board

The Committee may wish to recall that at its previous session considered the draft text of a revision to a comment to Article 3 and four good practices transmitted by TIRExB, as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/11, with the aim to have them included in the next revision of the TIR Handbook.

The committee may wish to consider and possibly adopt document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/11/Rev.1, which includes a rewording of the comment to Article 3 on postal items in its Russian version and a revised version of the best practice on authorized consignors for TIR in Türkiye following recent changes in the procedure related to authorized consignors for TIR in the country.

#### Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/11/Rev.1; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/11

### (d) 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).

### (a) eTIR international system and its interconnection with national customs systems

The Committee will be informed the latest developments of the eTIR international system and its interconnection with national customs systems following Annex 11.

**(b) Activities of the Technical Implementation Body**

The Committee at its previous session noted that TIB had considered a proof of concept for the possible access of TIR transport data by holders via the web and mobile applications dedicated to holders and felt that this question, since it requires changes to the eTIR concepts, should be first considered by the contracting parties to the TIR convention bound by Annex 11 in the framework of AC.2. The chair of TIB invited the Committee to provide its views on the issue. The Committee may wish to consider and endorse the relevant changes to eTIR concepts (Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 4).

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 its interconnection with national customs systems following Annex 11, and (b) the outcome of the fifth and sixth session of TIB, which took place on 12 and 13(p.m.) October 2023 and 5 and 6 (a.m.) February 2024, respectively.

The Committee may also wish to take note of the possibly availability of Russian and French translations of the documents composing revision 2 of version 4.3 of the eTIR specifications (i.e. ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/2/Rev.2–(introduction), ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/11/Rev.2 (introduction), ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3/Rev.2–ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/12/Rev.2 (and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3/Rev.2/Corr.1–(eTIR concepts), ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/12/Rev.2/Corr.1) (eTIR concepts), ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/4/Rev.2 –ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/13/Rev.2 (eTIR functional specifications) ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/5/Rev.2 –ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/14/Rev.2 (technical specifications)).

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/8; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/2/Rev.2–  
ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC2/2022/11/Rev.2; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3/Rev.2–  
ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC2/2022/12/Rev.2;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/3/Rev.2/Corr.1–  
ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC.2/2022/12/Rev.2/Corr.1;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/4/Rev.2–ECE/TRANS/WP30/AC2/2022/13/Rev.2;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/TIB/2022/5/Rev.2–ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/14/Rev.2;  
Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 4

**(c) Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union**

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ECE and IRU (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2021/8), the Committee shall consider and adopt 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, adopt the annual workplan of the P3 Information Systems officer staff member for the year 2024, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/3.

**Documentation**

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/3

**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 seventy-seventh session, it had formally decided to prolong 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) (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/157, para. 35).

(b) **TIR carnet new lay-out – Prolongation of a transitional period**

The Committee at its last session considered document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2023/13, which contained a request by IRU to prolong the transitional period for the use of the TIR Carnets passed on the old lay-out. The Committee may wish to recall that consider this request and approved a prolongation for six months. Furthermore, On the basis of a proposal by the Russian Federation, in order to better understand the justification for this request, the Committee requested IRU to provide the Committee at its next session detailed information on the number of remaining old TIR Carnets by country and by when the countries would be able to exhaust this stock.

**8. Other business**

(a) **Date of next session**

The ECE secretariat has made tentative arrangements to hold the eighty-third session of the Committee on 9 October 2024. The Committee may wish to confirm this date.

(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.

**9. Adoption of the report**

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

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