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Economic Commission for Europe

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Eighty-fifth session

Geneva, 5 and 6 February 2025

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eighty-fifth session***

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 February,
10 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–6 p.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) Election of members of the TIR Executive Board;
 - (ii) Report by the Chair of the TIR Executive Board;
 - (iii) International databases and electronic tools managed by the TIR secretariat;
 - (iv) Survey on customs claims;
 - (v) National and regional TIR workshops and seminars.
 - (b) Administration of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat:

* 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). Documents may also be downloaded from the ECE Border Crossing Facilitation website 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. All delegates are requested to register online, including those holding long-duration badges, at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1011586/> at the latest one week prior to the session. Delegates without a valid long-duration badge should 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 ECE secretariat by phone +41 22 917 59 75 or email: maria.mostovets@un.org. For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.



- (i) Status report on the accounts for the year 2024;
 - (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) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by a Contracting Party;
 - (d) Comments and examples of good practice transmitted by the TIR Executive Board;
 - (e) 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) Issues arising from the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union:
 - (i) Annual workplan of the P3 Information Systems Officer staff member;
 - (ii) eTIR financing and resource requirements.
- 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 2023.
- 8. Authorization to conclude an agreement between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union.
- 9. Other business:
 - (a) Memorandum of Understanding with International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations;
 - (b) Date of next session;
 - (c) Restriction on the distribution of documents;
 - (d) List of decisions.
- 10. 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.2/172). 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.2/172

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 2025. 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 number of contracting parties to the TIR Convention, if any. The Committee will also be informed about Depositary Notifications issued by the Depositary since its last session, in connection with amendment proposals adopted at its eighty-fourth session. Detailed information on the status of the Convention and on depositary notifications is available on the TIR website.¹ Finally, the Committee will be informed of a technical error in the text of Amendment 39,² which entered into force on 25 June 2022 pursuant to Depositary Notification C.N.91.2022.TREATIES-XI.A.16, containing the new TIR Carnet layout. The Committee will be invited to confirm the unintended technical error in the text and to request the secretariat to transmit a proposal of correction to the Depositary via a non-objection procedure.

4. Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board

(a) Activities of the TIR Executive Board

(i) Election of members of the TIR Executive Board

The Committee may wish to recall that, in accordance with Annex 8, Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the term of office of each member of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) shall be two years. Since the present members of TIRExB have been elected at the Committee's session in February and June 2023, the Committee must, at its present session proceed with the election or re-election of the nine members of TIRExB. The election procedure, adopted by the Administrative Committee at its twenty-ninth session (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/59, paras. 24–27) and as amended at its fifty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/121, para. 25), and its eighty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/171, paras. 9–13) is outlined in detail in Informal Document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No.16/Rev.1.

The Committee, at its previous session, decided to amend the established procedure for the election at the current session to include that the session will be suspended during the counting of the votes and that the counting shall take place in the meeting room where the election takes place, with the presence of an observer who shall, in principle, be the Chair of the Committee, unless the Chair is also a candidate for election. Against this background, the

¹ www.unece.org/tir/tir-depositary_notification.html

² https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/ECE-TRANS-17-Amend-39efr_0.pdf

secretariat will inform the Committee orally about arrangements made in the room for the counting process.

The Committee authorized the ECE secretariat to solicit candidates in October 2024, to close the list of candidates on 13 December 2024 midnight, Geneva time and to issue, on 16 December 2024, the official list of candidates for distribution to all contracting parties (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/171, para. 10). The procedure and criteria for the nomination of candidates are also included in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 16/Rev.1. In accordance with the approved procedure, the secretariat will circulate to all contracting parties, on 16 December 2024, the list of nominated candidates, followed (as soon as possible) by restricted Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 1 (for Government officials only), containing the curriculums vitae (C.V.) of the nominated candidates. The Committee is invited to proceed with the election or re-election of the nine members of TIRExB, in accordance with established practice.

Documentation

Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 16/Rev.1; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2025) No. 1 (restricted)

(ii) 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 TIRExB at its 100th (June 2024) and 101st (October 2024) sessions, for information and endorsement by the Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/1 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/2). More information about recent activities of TIRExB as well as about various considerations and decisions taken at its 102nd (November 2024) and 103rd (February 2025) sessions 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. 2 and Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 3, submitted by IRU, which contain the TIR carnet distribution prices as of January 2025 and the Statistics of TIR Carnets distribution to national associations, respectively.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/1; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/2; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 2; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 3

(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.

(iv) Survey on customs claims

Pursuant to its mandate to supervise the operation of the guarantee system (Annex 8, Article 10, paragraph (a)), TIRExB, at regular intervals, conducts a survey on the status of customs claims in all TIR contracting parties. As part of its activities for the 2023–2024 term of office, TIRExB launched the survey for the years 2019–2022. The Committee might wish to consider the consolidated results of the survey as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/3.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/3

(v) 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 2024**

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 2024 by the time the Committee meets in February 2025, the report on the complete and final accounts will be transmitted, as in the past, to the next session of the Committee in 2025 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 2025 were approved by the Committee at its previous session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/171, para. 20). The Committee will be informed about the transfer of the required funds for the year 2025 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 (\$3.69 (rounded) (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/171, para. 21).

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 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 for the year 2024 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/9). The Committee is also invited to take note of a letter by IRU on financing the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for 2025 in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2025) No. 4.

Under this agenda item, the Committee may also wish to recall that, at its previous session (October 2024), it was informed about the changes introduced to document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2024/10/Rev.1–ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/7/Rev.1 regarding options to co-finance the TIR secretariat from funds additional to those collected by means of an amount per TIR Carnet. At its eighty-fourth session, the Committee also decided that, due to a lack of time, it would defer discussions on this topic to its current session. The Committee may wish to resume considerations on this document.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/9; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2024/10/Rev.1–
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/7/Rev.1; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2025) No. 4

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 note that, at its twenty-eighth session (February 2000), the TIR Administrative Committee (AC.2) authorized TIRExB to decide, upon proposal by the TIR Secretary, on modifications to the detailed budget line allocations within the approved budget for the efficient operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/57, para. 18). At its ninety-fifth session (February 2023), TIRExB pointed out that this procedure was introduced more than twenty years ago and expressed that it could be necessary to create a formal legal basis for such procedure within the TIR Convention or within the Rules of Procedure of TIRExB. With that in mind, at its ninety-sixth session, TIRExB decided to include this output in its program of work for 2023–2024, which was approved by the Committee at its eighty-first session (October 2023). Against this background, the Board at its eighty-eighth session (October 2023), finalized the proposal for a new Explanatory Note to Annex 8, Article 13, paragraph 1.

The Committee will be invited to consider and, possibly, accept the amendment proposal as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/4. In the event that the Committee will decide favourably on this amendment proposal, it may also wish to decide on whether it is possible to formally adopt it for onward transmittal to the Depositary or if it would be included under accepted amendment proposals pending formal adoption (agenda item 5(e)) for the next session.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/4

(c) Amendment proposals to the Convention transmitted by a Contracting Party

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

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

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to take note that, for the time being, no new comments or examples of good practice have been transmitted by the TIR Executive Board for consideration. Under this agenda item, the secretariat will also provide oral information regarding the twelfth revised edition of the TIR Handbook.

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

The Committee will be informed about the latest developments in the field of computerization of the TIR procedure (eTIR). In particular 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 may wish to recall that at its previous session it was orally informed about the outcome of the eighth session of the Technical Implementation Body, which took place on 8 October 2024.

Furthermore, at its previous session, the Committee had considered the issue of granting read-only access to TIR carnet holders to their own TIR transport data from the eTIR international system and, further to deliberations, had invited the International Road Transport Union to conduct a survey of its National Associations and their members on the matter, to collect further information before a decision was to be made on this question and to coordinate with the secretariat to provide additional inputs to the discussion for the next session.

Finally, the Committee at its previous session had also requested the secretariat to send out a short survey to TIR focal points to collect information on the application of the procedure described in the best practices on the use of the TIR Carnet when a country decides not to allow a TIR transport to enter its territory (Chapter 7.2 of the TIR Handbook).

Updated information on these two requests has been included in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/10. The Committee may wish to consider the document in continuation of its deliberations on the two issues.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/10

(c) Issues arising from the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union**(i) Annual workplan of the P3 Information Systems Officer staff member**

At its previous session, the Committee took note of the extension, for one more year, of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ECE and IRU, covering the expenses of the P3 post of Information Systems Officer for 2025. As part of this MoU, 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 2025, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/5.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/5

(ii) eTIR financing and resource requirements

At its previous session, the Committee continued its considerations with regard to possible mechanisms for the financing of eTIR. In so doing, the Committee took note of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2024/9/Rev.1–ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/6/Rev.1, as well as Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 15 which contained a series of questions to be clarified, submitted by the European Commission, and Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 12 containing the position of the Government of Switzerland on this topic. Several delegations provided further oral remarks and position statements (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/171, paras. 35–40 and Annex III). Against the background of these discussions, the Committee decided to request the secretariat to prepare new documentation addressing, to the extent possible, the open questions as reflected in the deliberations of the Committee thus far and providing proposals on the operational requirements of the system and for which functions, for the next session.

In line with this request, the Committee will be invited to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/6, consolidating delegations' written and/or stated positions and questions, with, to the extent possible, clarifications by the secretariat. The Committee will also be invited to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/7, presenting the estimated resource requirements for completing the development, operationalizing eTIR in all active TIR Contracting Parties as well as hosting, maintaining and supporting the system, taking into account the expected growth in the use of the eTIR

procedure, as assessed by the secretariat, to support and facilitate the further considerations of the Committee on this issue.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2024/9/Rev.1–ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/6/Rev.1;
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/6; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/7

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

(a) Prolongation of the authorization

Authorization for printing and distributing TIR Carnets and the organizing and functioning of the guarantee system is granted subject to the provisions of Article 6.2 bis, Annex 8, Article 10 (b) and Explanatory Notes 0.6.2 bis-2 and 8.10 (b). The Committee may wish to recall its previous decision (at its seventy-seventh session, February 2022) to authorize IRU to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets and to organize the functioning of the guarantee system for the period 2023–2025 inclusive (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/157, para. 35) and that a decision for the next period should be taken at the session of the Committee in February 2025. Against this background, the Committee is invited to discuss and decide on the renewal of the authorization as well as on the period of its validity; per past practice the validity usually covers three years namely the period 2026–2028 inclusive.

(b) Audit report for the year 2023

At its eighty-fourth session, the Committee took note of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/12 by IRU, containing the audit report and management letter for the year 2023. In this connection, the Committee invited IRU to provide additional explanations on the items listed in chapter F of the document, in writing, as to what each line entails. Against this background, the Committee will be invited to consider Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 5, submitted by IRU and containing the clarifications requested.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/12; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2024) No. 5

8. Authorization to conclude an agreement between the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the International Road Transport Union

The Committee may wish to recall that the present ECE-IRU Agreement (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/4) expires at the end of 2025. As in the past, the Committee should approve, at its session in February 2025, a new draft agreement and provide the secretariat with the mandate to conclude the new agreement with a view to continuing to finance the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat as of the year 2026. Due to a lack of time at its eighty-fourth session, the Committee decided to defer consideration of this item to its next session. Against this background, the Committee is invited to consider and possibly adopt the proposed new draft agreement as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/8 and, on that basis, to mandate the secretariat to conclude, a new agreement covering, preferably, the same period of time as the authorization (2026–2028).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2022/4; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2025/8

9. Other business

(a) Memorandum of Understanding with International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations

At its eighty-fourth session, the Committee was informed about the prospective conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Association (FIATA), with the objective to cooperate for the interconnection of FIATA's transport documents, in particular the FIATA Multimodal Transport Bill of Lading (FBL), with the eTIR International System platform (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/17). The Committee took note of the plans, while delegations also provided preliminary remarks that additional assessment of costs and benefits of the proposed way forward may be warranted. Noting the lack of time and that this item was being discussed without interpretation support, the Committee decided to resume discussions on this matter at its current session.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2024/17

(b) Date of next session

The ECE secretariat has made tentative arrangements to hold the eighty-sixth session of the Committee on 23 October 2025, subject to potential adjustments due to the ongoing United Nations liquidity crisis.

(c) 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. In this context, the Committee may wish to recall that Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2025) No. 1 has been issued as restricted document (for Government officials only).

(d) List of decisions

The list of adopted decisions will be attached to the final report.

10. Adoption of the report

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