



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

Geneva, 6 February 2020

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Audit of the accounts of the TIR Executive Board
and the TIR secretariat****Action plan to promote accession to and implementation of
the TIR Convention and the eTIR international system,
including intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention****Note by the secretariat**

1. The audit of the management of the TIR Trust Fund conducted by the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) recommends that ECE should develop an action plan for providing the required training and support to countries that have acceded to the TIR Convention to operationalize the TIR procedures in those countries (see Recommendation No. 10 in ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2019/25).
2. The audit also mentions that the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) stipulate that the TIR secretariat shall undertake the task of providing information, interpretation and support for training on the application of TIR procedures, particularly for countries that have recently acceded to the Convention. OIOS noted that eight countries (Montenegro, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, China, India, State of Palestine, Qatar and Saudi Arabia) had acceded to the TIR Convention since October 2006, of whom five countries were operational. The TIR secretariat was yet to provide training in the required administrative procedures to these eight countries since their accession to the Convention, as well as support for the establishment of administrative procedures. The TIR secretariat needed to take the required measures in operationalizing the TIR system in these countries.
3. TIRExB, at its eighty-second session (June 2019), took note of the recommendation made by OIOS and considered that priority should be given to it as there were many new accessions to the TIR Convention. The Board, while appreciating the efforts by IRU and some contracting parties so far, was of the view that there needed to be an organized approach by the secretariat to the activation of the TIR system in new contracting parties. It also recalled that its programme of work envisaged preparation of an action plan to provide the required training and support to countries that have recently acceded to the TIR Convention in the establishment of administrative procedures, in line with Article 8 (f) of its ToR. The secretariat clarified that an action plan would allow a follow-up with newly acceded countries for the establishment of the administrative procedures. The secretariat added that there were new challenges ahead, such as eTIR and the intermodal use of the TIR procedure, and that, thus, the intention was to draft a more strategic document, covering plans about events to be organized to promote those topics.

4. TIRExB, at its eighty-third session (October 2019), agreed with the action plan drafted by the secretariat and requested it to be submitted to the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975 (AC.2) at its February 2020 session for consideration and approval, as also recommended by OIOS.

5. The Administrative Committee may wish to consider and adopt the proposed action plan.

<i>i.d</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>How</i>	<i>When</i>
<i>Training / Promotion Material</i>						
1.	TIR Convention Road Map for accession and implementation	A road map should be prepared which will describe in detail anything that a Government should work on in order to accede to the Convention and to ensure smooth implementation of the Convention. Whenever needed good practices already implemented by other contracting parties will be included.	United Nations official languages	The TIR secretariat, International Organization and contracting parties.	TIR budget	End of 2020
2.	eTIR Road Map for accession and implementation	A road map should be prepared which will describe in detail anything that a Government should work on in order to accede to Annex 11 of the Convention and to ensure smooth connection and implementation to the eTIR international system.	English, Russian, Chinese, Spanish, Arabic	The TIR secretariat, International Organization and Contracting Parties.	TIR budget	End of 2020
3.	TIR Convention Brochure	A brochure for the TIR Convention of no more than four pages should be prepared that would illustrate in a schematic and very simplified way how the Convention works, what are the benefits etc. The Intermodal aspects of the convention, the ITDB and its computerization will be also included	United Nations official languages	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget, ECE printing/design services	Q1 2020
4.	eTIR international system Brochure	A brochure for the eTIR international system will be prepared that will illustrate in a schematic way the way, the procedures and the principles on which the eTIR international system operates, the advantages from its usage etc.	United Nations official languages	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget, ECE printing/design services	Q1 2020
5.	Intermodal Aspects of TIR Convention brochure	A brochure the illustrates the intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention will be prepared that will illustrate in a schematic way how TIR can be used in Intermodal Transport, its benefits including guidelines to fill in a TIR carnet etc/	United Nations official languages	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget, ECE printing/design services	Q1 2020
6.	International TIR databank (ITDB) Brochure	A brochure that illustrates the functions of ITDB including the benefits that brings for both the TIR transport procedure and the eTIR will be prepared	United Nations official languages	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget, ECE printing/design services	Q1 2020

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7.	Training materials for the TIR Convention	Generic training materials to be used in workshops for countries which have newly acceded to the TIR convention. It should at least present the steps in order to operationalize the TIR Convention and the ITDB.	English, Arabic, French	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget	During 2020
8.	Training materials for eTIR	Generic training materials to be used in workshops for countries which have newly acceded to the TIR Convention who would like to start the interconnection of their customs information systems with eTIR. It would introduce eTIR, how to connect to it and give a checklist on the next steps to follow.	English, Arabic and French and Chinese	The TIR secretariat	TIR budget	During 2020
<i>Internet / IT resources</i>						
9.	New eTIR Web site	A new eTIR Web site should be designed and elaborated which will be the front page of the eTIR international system as well as the electronic platform for knowledge sharing.	United Nations official languages	TIR secretariat		Q1 2020
10.	TIR Handbook smartphone version	A smartphone version of TIR handbook will be developed. If decided, this application might be the first step towards the development of eTIR smartphone version.	United Nations official languages, flexible to be used in other languages	TIR secretariat		During 2021
11.	TIR Training center	The electronic training center (www.unece.org/tir/training/english.htm) will be further improved in the TIR Convention web site with the objective to provide all information needed for the accession and efficient implementation of the Convention as well as an electronic forum for the exchange of views, problems, challenges and questions. Other open source tools might use servicing different purposes such as online questionnaires etc.	United Nations official languages	TIR secretariat		Q2 2020
12.	Training Register	A matrix listing all training efforts undertaken by the secretariat for the countries that have recently	English	TIR secretariat	TIR budget	Q4 2019

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		acceded to the TIR Convention. This would be part of our TIR secretariat space in Confluence				
<i>Capacity Building / Awareness Raising workshops</i>						
13.	United Nations General Assembly Side event	A side event during the United Nations General Assembly in New York will be organized in cooperation with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) on eTIR International System and the benefits that its application will bring to landlocked countries	English	TIR Secretariat, UN-OHRLLS, International Organisation	TIR budget	5 and 6 December 2019, New York
14.	Capacity building Workshop for the member States of the ECE TEM ¹ & TER ² projects	TEM and TER projects are trust funds where ECE is the executive partner with main objective the promotion of regional development of rail and road transport. A workshop could be co-organized with both projects back to back with their annual steering committees on border crossing facilitation and the intermodal aspects of the TIR Convention and the eTIR international system. Projects have on average 16 member and they administer their own budgets.	English	TIRExB, TIR secretariat, International Organization, TEM & TER secretariats	TEM & TER budget, TIR budget	During 2020
15.	Capacity building Workshop for the member States of the ECO ³ Secretariat Tehran/ Islamic Republic of Iran	A workshop should be organized in cooperation with ECO secretariat inviting its ten member States with the objective to train them on the eTIR international system and prepare them to participate at different pilot tests in the region including their connection in the system	English	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	Seek funds from Islamic Development Bank, ECO Budget, TIR secretariat budget	Q4 2020
16.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of	Participate in their annual gathering that normally takes place in Kazakhstan and organize back to back an event where we can promote the eTIR	English/ Russian	TIR secretariat, TIRExB,	TIR secretariat budget	Q4 2020

¹ Trans-European Motorway

² Trans-European Railway

³ Economic Cooperation Organization

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	SPECA ⁴ United Nations Project	international System and the implementation of the Convention		International Organization		
17.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of ESCWA ⁵ Regional Commission for Middle East and North Africa	Organize an awareness raising workshop in sister commission ESCWA promoting both the TIR Convention and its advantages for the region as well as the eTIR international system seeking for future cooperation and expansion of the system in the region	English/ Arabic	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget / Islamic Development Bank /	Q4 2020
18.	Capacity Building Workshop for eBusiness parcels in cooperation with the UPU ⁶ / Trans-Siberian Coordination Council /CIT ⁷ / European Union	Organize a capacity building workshop on the possibility to apply the TIR Convention to eBusiness parcels	English/ Russian	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, UPU, International Organization, Trans-Siberian Coordination Council, CIT, European Union	TIR secretariat budget	Q4 2020
19.	Capacity Building Workshop in cooperation with the World customs organization	Organize a capacity building workshop with WCO ⁸ for the promotion of the eTIR International System which its developed based on the WCO data model	English	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, WCO, International Organization, WTO	TIR secretariat budget	Q4 2020
20.	Capacity building Workshop in cooperation with International Union for Road Rail Combined Transport (UIRR), Europlatforms, International Federation	Organize a capacity building workshop with intermodal transport associations and the ECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)	English	TIR secretariat, WP.24 secretariat, TIRExB, UIRR, FIATA, Europlatforms, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	Q4 2020

⁴ Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia

⁵ Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

⁶ Universal Postal Union

⁷ International Rail Transport Committee

⁸ World Customs Organisation

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	of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) in the framework of WP.24					
21.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of ECA ⁹ Regional Commission for Africa	Organize an awareness raising workshop in sister commission ECA promoting both the TIR Convention and its advantages for the region as well as the eTIR international system seeking for future cooperation and expansion of the system in the region	English/French	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget / Islamic Development Bank / African Development Bank / World Bank	Q1 2021
22.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of the CAREC ¹⁰ Project / Financed by Asian Development Bank	A workshop should be organized in cooperation with CAREC secretariat / ADB ¹¹ inviting its eleven member States with the objective to train them on the eTIR international System and prepare them to participate at different pilot tests in the region including their connection in the system	English	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	Seek funds from Asian Development Bank, CAREC Budget, TIR secretariat budget	Q2 2021
23.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization	An MOU is planned to be signed between ECE with SCO ¹² . This MOU includes an action plan where the organization of capacity building workshops in order to promote the eTIR international system and the implementation of the Convention is being clearly mentioned.	English	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	Q2 2021
24.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of ESCAP ¹³ Regional	Organize an awareness raising workshop in sister commission ESCAP (possibly in parallel to a larger ESCAP trade or transport event such as the APTFF ¹⁴) promoting both the TIR Convention and	English	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget / Islamic Development Bank / ADB	Q2 2022

⁹ United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

¹⁰ Central Asia Regional Environmental Centre

¹¹ Asian Development Bank

¹² Shanghai Cooperation Organization

¹³ Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

¹⁴ Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum

<i>i.d</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>How</i>	<i>When</i>
	Commission for Asia Pacific	its advantages for the region as well as the eTIR international system seeking for future cooperation and expansion of the system in the region				
25.	Capacity Building Workshop for the member States of ECLAC ¹⁵ Regional Commission for Latin America	Organize an awareness raising workshop in sister commission ECLAC promoting both the TIR Convention and its advantages for the region as well as the eTIR international system seeking for future cooperation and expansion of the system in the region	English/Spanish	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget / World Bank	Q3 2022
<i>Specialized Workshops on new Contracting Parties</i>						
26.	Organization of Capacity Building Workshops in new Contracting Parties the first eight months after a country becomes contracting party to the agreement.	Kick-off workshops and follow-up trainings (with possible field visits), use of training materials (road map of accession, online sources, good practices etc) for newly acceded contracting parties to ensure their full understanding of the system and their readiness	United Nations official languages / ad hoc selection	TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	During 2020 - 2021
a.	Qatar			TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	2020
b.	Oman			TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	2021
c.	Argentina			TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	2021

¹⁵ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

<i>i.d</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Who</i>	<i>How</i>	<i>When</i>
d.	State of Palestine			TIR secretariat, TIRExB, International Organization	TIR secretariat budget	t.b.d.