Economic Commission for Europe

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Fifty-second session
Geneva, 6 October 2011
Item 3 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda
Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board –
Administration of the TIR Executive Board and the TIR secretariat:
Procedure for financing of the operation of the TIRExB and TIR secretariat

Budget proposal and cost plan for the year 2012

Summary

The present document is submitted pursuant to Annex 8, Article 13 of the TIR Convention, 1975, which stipulates that the budget and cost plan of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) and TIR secretariat have to be approved by the Administrative Committee.
1. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 13 of the Convention, the TIRExB has prepared the present budget proposal and a cost plan providing for its operation in the year 2012. The budget proposal and cost plan, as contained in the present document, will be finalized and approved by the TIRExB at its October meeting prior to the meeting of the TIR Administrative Committee. Modifications, if any, decided upon by the TIRExB at this meeting, will be reflected in a corrigendum to this document.

2. The proposed cost plan for 2012 estimated at US$ 1,638,500 inclusive of programme support cost (see annex I) reflects an increase of US$ 163,700 over the approved budget and cost plan for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for 2011 (US$ 1,474,800 inclusive of programme support cost). The increase relates mainly to the increased cost of Project Personnel, Administrative Support Personnel and Travels due to the weak US dollar compared to the Swiss franc.

3. The United Nations requires that an operating cash reserve at the level of 15 per cent of the annual estimated expenditures be maintained to cover exchange rate fluctuation, any shortfalls and to meet final expenditures including any liquidating liabilities. An operating cash reserve equivalent to US$ 217,500 (i.e. 15 per cent of US$ 1,450,000) would therefore need to be provided in 2012. As such the total 2012 estimated resource requirements amount to a total of US$ 1,856,000. However, taking into account the estimated available balance at 31 December 2011 available for 2012 operations (US$ 721,999 inclusive of the contribution of US$ 339,938 received on 10 March 2011), the actual additional amount required for 2012 is estimated at US$ 1,134,000 (rounded). The resources of US$ 305,000, exceptionally transferred by IRU in 2004 to be used in the event of termination of the UNECE/IRU agreement, and the provision of US$ 307,100 for Installation and Separation Costs will be left unallotted and carried forward from year to year until required (see Fund Statement in annex II).

4. It is currently estimated that some …..million TIR Carnets will be issued in 2012. Under this scenario, an amount per TIR Carnet of US$ …….. will be required to generate the income necessary to cover the additional funds of US$ 1,134,000 needed for the 2012 operations.

5. Annex 2 of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/89 provides steps, procedures and related timeline for the financing of the operation of the TIRExB.
Annex I

Proposed Cost Plan for 2012

Programme: TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) and TIR secretariat
(Title of Trust Fund: “Transport International Routier - TIR” Account No.: ZL-RER-8001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object of expenditure</th>
<th>Amount (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Personnel</td>
<td>1 054 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Support Personnel</td>
<td>228 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultants fees and travels</td>
<td>30 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel on official business</td>
<td>50 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel of experts</td>
<td>30 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training</td>
<td>15 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office automation &amp; equipment</td>
<td>20 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation and maintenance of equipment</td>
<td>2 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External contractual services</td>
<td>20 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General operating expenses</td>
<td>1 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total estimated direct expenditures</td>
<td>1 450 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Support (13% of Total expenditures)</td>
<td>188 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 638 500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TIR Trust Fund resource requirements for the year 2012

**Project Personnel US$ 1,054,000**

The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover the salary and related costs¹ for one year of five experts on fixed-term appointments: one Customs expert, one Legal officer, one Project Management expert and two Computer Information System experts. It also includes provisions for a short-term expert to assist in the development of mandated IT projects.

**Administrative Support Personnel US$ 228,000**

The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover the salary and related costs² of two administrative support staff for one year.

**Consultant fees and travels US$ 30,000**

The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover consultancy costs to carry out mandated tasks.

¹ In line with the United Nations Staff regulations and Rules.
² In line with the United Nations Staff regulations and Rules.
Travel on official business US$ 50,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover the travel cost of Project Staff and the TIR Secretary.

Travel of experts US$ 30,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover DSA for the nine members of the TIRExB.

Staff Training US$ 15,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover training costs of the TIR secretariat staff.

Office automation & equipment US$ 20,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover the acquisition and replacement of relevant electronic and computer office equipment (PCs, printers, copy machine, fax, office furniture, etc.), including data base hard and software systems.

Operation and maintenance of equipment US$ 2,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover the cost of repair and maintenance of office and computer equipment (PCs, printers, copy machine, fax, etc.).

External contractual services US$ 20,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is intended to cover expenses for meeting rooms, interpretations, translations, external printing of training materials, hospitality, telephone/fax, miscellaneous expenses, etc., related to one TIR Seminar and one TIRExB meetings organized outside the UN premises.

General operating expenses US$ 1,000
The proposed amount under this object of expenditure is to provide for communication costs (i.e. postage, fax, long distance calls, and pouch) and other miscellaneous expenses.
Annex II

Local Technical Cooperation Trust Fund
Transport international routier - TIR
Fund Statement (US dollars)

(1) **2012 Projected Expenditures:**
- 2012 Estimated direct expenditures: 1 450 000
- 13% Programme Support Cost: 188 500
- 15% Operating Cash Reserve (US$ 1 450 000 x 15%): 217 500
- 2012 Estimated projected requirements (rounded): 1 856 000

**Estimated Funds Available at 31 December 2011:**
- Actual fund balance at 31 December 2010: 1 509 961
- 2011 Contribution received in 2010: 959 000
- Contribution received on 10/03/2011: 339 938
- Total funds as at 31 December 2011: 2 808 899

Less: (The following estimates are inclusive of 13% Programme Support Cost)
- 2011 Estimated projected expenditures: 1 474 800
- Provision for Installation and Separation Costs: 307 100
- Provision for early termination UNECE/IRU Agreement (forwarded year-to-year): 305 000
- Total: 2 086 900

(2) **Total estimated available balance as at 31 December 2011 for 2012 operations:** 721 999

(3) **Estimated Funds to be transferred for 2012 operation [(1)-(2)] (rounded):** 1 134 000

**Note 1:** The Operating Cash Reserve will be used to complement the provision for separation costs in case of closure of the TIR secretariat.

**Note 2:** See document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2011/10.