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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

(1 June 2006)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS
FOR THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.00 hours on Thursday, 1 June 2006 ***

Note by the 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 documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents may be obtained directly from the UNECE Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; e-mail: Poul.Hansen@unece.org). Agenda, documents and reports may also be downloaded from the Internet web site of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://tir.unece.org>). During the meeting, documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, 3rd floor, Palais des Nations). Documents mentioned in bold in the documentation overview under each agenda item of this the agenda are newly issued documents.

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Internet Web site of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome.html>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the session, either by fax (+41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (Poul.Hansen@unece.org). Prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (internal extension 74030).

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 (TIRExB)
Financial administration of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat
 - Audit by the UN Board of Auditors
5. Proposals for amendments to the Convention
Amendment(s) to the Convention with regard to the financing of the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat
6. Authorization for printing and distribution of TIR Carnets and the organization and functioning of the guarantee system
7. Authorization for the conclusion of an agreement between the UNECE and the IRU
8. Other business
 - (a) Date of next session
 - (b) Restriction on the distribution of documents
9. Adoption of the report

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II. EXPLANATORY NOTES

The UNECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) will hold its one-hundred-and-thirteenth session in conjunction with the present session of the Administrative Committee from 30 May to 2 June 2006. The agenda for the meeting is contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/225 and may be obtained directly from the UNECE secretariat or from the UNECE TIR web site (<http://tir.unece.org>). Representatives of Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975, are strongly recommended to participate also in the sessions of the Working Party.

It is recalled 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 purposes of taking decisions." As of 1 December 2005 the number of Contracting Parties to the Convention is sixty-six.

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III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documentation: **ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/82.**

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider and adopt the agenda of its present session as prepared by the UNECE secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/82).

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 3 of the Convention and in line with established practice, the Administrative Committee may wish to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for its remaining sessions in 2006.

3. STATUS OF THE TIR CONVENTION, 1975

Documentation: **ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81.**

The Committee will be informed of the situation concerning the geographical scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975. A list of Contracting Parties to the Convention as well as of countries in which a TIR transit operation can be established is contained in the annex to the report of the fortieth session of the Committee and is also available on the UNECE TIR web site (<http://tir.unece.org>). Contracting Parties may wish to verify these listings. The annex also contains a list of national associations issuing and guaranteeing TIR Carnets.

Detailed information on the status of the Convention as well as on the various Depository Notifications is available on the UNECE TIR web site (<http://tir.unece.org>).

4. ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIRExB)

Financial administration of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat

Documentation: **ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81.**

- Audit of the UN Board of Auditors

The Administrative Committee, at its fortieth session, took note of information provided by a representative of the United Nations Board of Auditors as well as the secretariat on the background and status of the audit carried out by the Board of Auditors in spring 2005 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81, paras. 27-29). In this context, the Committee noted that the UN Office of Internal Over-sight (OIOS) will carry out an audit in the first quarter of 2006 of the UNECE-IRU Agreement and that the Board of Auditors on the basis of the findings of the OIOS will conduct a second audit of the said agreement and its implementation in spring 2006. The findings of the Board will be reported to the UN General Assembly in autumn 2006.

The Committee may wish to be informed of any further developments in relation to the above-mentioned audits.

5. PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/3; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/4; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81.

Amendment(s) to the Convention with regard to the financing of the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat

The Committee, at its fortieth session, bearing in mind the information referred to under point 4 (a) above, considered Informal document No. 2 (2006), prepared by the secretariat, containing *inter alia* a proposal for solving the inconsistency which exists between, on the one hand, the legal provision for the collection of the levy contained in Annex 8, Article 13 of the Convention and, on the other hand, the transfer and collection by the IRU of the amounts required for covering the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat. The Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a document for the session containing proposals, including the proposal mentioned in Informal document No. 2 (2006), aimed at resolving the inconsistencies mentioned above. The Committee pointed out that the proposals should be developed in consultation with the UN Auditors, the UN Office of Legal Affairs and other relevant regulations in the UN. Bearing this in mind, the Committee recognized that the secretariat should have sufficient flexibility with regard to the preparation of the proposals (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81, para. 30).

The Committee may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/3, prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the relevant UN bodies in line with relevant UN regulations, providing proposals for resolving the issue of the financing of the operation of the TIRExB and TIR secretariat.

The Committee may also wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/4, transmitted by the IRU, providing a proposal on the same issue.

The Committee may wish to decide on the appropriate measures to be taken in relation to the above issue with a view to securing an acceptable and transparent financing mechanism in the future.

6. AUTHORIZATION FOR PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF TIR CARNETS AND THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE GUARANTEE SYSTEM

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81.

The Committee may wish to recall that, at its fortieth session, it had, for the time being, decided to confirm the authorization of the IRU to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets and to organize the functioning of the guarantee system for the period 2006-2010 inclusive (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81, para. 35).

The Committee, bearing in mind the outcome of the above issue, may wish to confirm the authorization of the IRU for the period 2006-2010 inclusive.

7. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNECE AND THE IRU

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81.

The Committee, at its fortieth session, based on the decision referred to under agenda item 6 above, decided to mandate the secretariat to make the necessary preparations for the continuation of the UNECE-IRU Agreement with a view to receiving the transfer of an amount from the IRU for the funding of the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2007 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/81, para. 36).

The Committee, bearing in mind its decision under agenda item 6 above, may wish to reconfirm its mandate to the secretariat.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Date of next session

The UNECE secretariat has made the necessary arrangements to hold the forty-second session of the Administrative Committee on 28 September 2006.

The Administrative Committee may wish to confirm the date of this forty-second session.

(b) Restriction on the distribution of documents

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

9. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT*

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 7 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee will adopt the report on its forty-first session on the basis of a draft prepared by the UNECE secretariat. Given the present resource restrictions with regard to translation facilities, parts of the final report may not be available at the end of the session for adoption in all working languages.

* The reading of the report will take place on the 2 June 2006.



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