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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Forty-third session
Geneva, 1 February 2007

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.00 hours on Thursday, 1 February 2007

Addendum

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/88/Corr.1 and
ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/88/Add.1

1. 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.2/88/Corr.1 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/88/Add.1).

Item 2 Election of officers

2. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Committee should elect a Chairperson and possibly a Vice-Chairperson for its sessions in 2007.

Item 3 Status of the TIR Convention, 1975

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/87

3. 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 forty-second session of the Committee and is also available on the UNECE TIR website (<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.

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

Item 4 Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)

(a) Activities of the TIRExB

(i) Report by the Chairman of the TIRExB

Documentation: Informal document No. 3 (2007)

5. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 11, paragraph 4 of the Convention and in line with the decision of the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/55, paras. 14-15), the UNECE secretariat has reproduced the report of the twenty-ninth TIRExB session held in May and June 2006 for information and endorsement by the Administrative Committee (Informal document No. 3 (2007)).

6. Further information on recent activities of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat as well as on the considerations and decisions taken at the thirtieth and thirty-first sessions (November 2006 and January 2007) of the TIRExB will be provided by the Chairman of the TIRExB during the session.

7. The Administrative Committee may wish to consider these reports and the supplementary information and provide guidance on future activities and priorities of work of the TIRExB.

8. The Administrative Committee may also wish to take note of a presentation by the secretariat of a project aiming to develop an electronic version of the UNECE register of Customs sealing devices and Customs stamps. The issue has been presented to the TIRExB, which in principle supported the development of an electronic version of the register. The Committee may wish to mandate the secretariat to commence the development.

(ii) **Identification (ID) number of the TIR Carnet holder and access to the International TIR Data Bank (ITDB)**

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/12; ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/15

9. The Administrative Committee will be informed by the TIR Secretary on the current operation of the ITDB and the on-line access to authorized Customs TIR Focal Points for inquiry procedures.

10. The ITDB contains at present more than 40,000 records with persons/companies authorized by national Customs authorities to utilize the TIR procedure. It also contains information on persons excluded from the TIR procedure in accordance with Article 38 of the Convention. The requested data are provided, for the time being, only to Customs TIR Focal Points furnishing their personal user code.

11. The Administrative Committee may wish to recall, that at its previous session, it had postponed the discussion of documents ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2005/3 and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/12, prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/85, paras. 19-21). The Committee may wish to consider and possibly take a decision on the issues contained in these documents.

(iii) **Fraud report Form**

12. The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that, at its forty-second session, it had decided to postpone the consideration of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/6, prepared by the secretariat, containing the proposal for a Fraud Report Form (FRF). The Committee may wish to consider the issue.

(iv) **National and regional TIR workshops and seminars**

13. The Administrative Committee may wish to be informed about seminars conducted and about planned seminars.

(b) **Financial administration of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat**

(i) **Status report on the accounts for the year 2006**

14. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 11, paragraph 4 of the Convention, the TIRExB shall submit audited accounts to the Administrative Committee at least once a year or at the request of the Administrative Committee.

15. If the competent Finance Services of the United Nations will not be able to formally finalize the accounts for 2006 by the time the Administrative Committee meets in February 2007, the report on the complete and final accounts will be transmitted, as in the past, to the session of the Administrative Committee in September 2007 for formal approval.

(ii) **Budget and cost plan for the year 2007**

16. The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that the budget and cost plan for the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2007 has been approved by the Administrative Committee at its forty-second session on the basis of a proposal made by the TIR

Secretary. The Committee may wish to be informed about the transfer of the required funds for the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2007 by the IRU to the TIR Trust Fund.

(iii) Audit of the UN Board of Auditors

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2006/9

17. The Committee may wish to be informed of any new developments with regard to the reports of the UN auditors.

(iv) Election of members for the TIRExB

Documentation: Informal documents No. 1 and 2 (2007)

18. The Administrative 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 TIRExB shall be two years. Since the present members of the TIRExB had been elected at its spring session in 2005, the Administrative Committee must, at its present session, proceed with the election or re-election of the nine members of the TIRExB.

19. The Administrative Committee, at its forty-second session, confirmed that the criteria for the nomination of candidates for the election of TIRExB members at the present session would be the same as for the previous election in 2005. It also confirmed that the procedure for the election of candidates for the TIRExB would be the same as for the election in 2005 (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/75, paras. 31-32). The Administrative Committee, therefore, authorized the UNECE secretariat to solicit candidates in November 2006, to close the list of candidates on 8 December 2006 and immediately thereafter on 11 December 2006 to issue thereafter the official list of candidates for distribution to all Contracting Parties as described in TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/85. The procedures for the nomination and election are contained in Informal document No. 1 (2007).

20. In accordance with the approved election procedure and on the basis of the list of nominated candidates contained in Informal document No. 2 (2007), which has been circulated by the secretariat to all Contracting Parties to the Convention immediately following 11 December 2006, the Administrative Committee may wish to proceed with the election or re-election of the nine members of the TIRExB in accordance with established practice. In this context, the Committee may wish first to consider if two candidates whose nominations have been received by the secretariat after the deadline of 8 December 2006, should be included in the list of candidates. The names of the two candidatures have been transmitted to all Contracting Parties on 19 December 2006 and 9 January 2007, respectively.

Item 5 Computerization of the TIR procedure

21. The Committee may wish to be informed about the latest developments with regard to the computerization of the TIR system.

Item 6 Proposals for amendments to the Convention

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2007/3

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

22. The Committee, at its forty-second session, considered a revised proposal for financing of the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat (Informal document No. 11 (2006)).

23. The Committee may wish to note that the IRU, de facto, for the time being has chosen to stay with the present financing mechanism.

24. However, as a result of consultations between various parties involved in the TIR system, the UNECE secretariat has prepared a new proposal for solving the problem pointed out by the UN auditors with regard to the present financing mechanism.

25. The Committee may wish to consider the proposal contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2007/3, prepared by the secretariat, outlining in part II a procedure for the collection and transfer of the amount per TIR Carnet and in part III a proposal for amendment of Annex 8 of the Convention. The proposals have been presented to the UN auditors, who did not have any comments.

26. The Committee may wish to consider and possibly approve the procedure described in part II of the document and to consider the amendment proposals contained in part III, with a view to accepting the proposals at the present or at its future session.

Item 7 Authorization for printing and distribution of TIR Carnets and the organization and functioning of the guarantee system

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/85

27. The Committee, bearing in mind that the IRU had transferred the requested amount for the financing of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat may wish to recall that, at its forty-second 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.2/85, para. 46).

Item 8 Authorization for the conclusion of an Agreement between the UNECE and the IRU

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/85

28. The Committee, based on the discussions under point 5 of the agenda, concerning the financing of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat, may wish to provide the secretariat with the mandate to make the necessary preparations for amending the UNECE-IRU Agreement and to continue it 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 2008.

Item 9 Other proposals for Amendments to the Convention

29. The Committee may wish to consider any other proposals for amending the Convention.

30. In particular, the Committee may wish to consider a proposal by the TIRExB for a new Explanatory Note to Article 3 (a) (iii) of the Convention limiting the possibility of transporting passenger cars on their own wheels under cover of TIR Carnets, as the extension of the TIR procedure to such goods could lead to a number of negative consequences and a higher risk of fraud.

31. The Committee may wish to consider and possibly adopt the following proposal:

"0.3 (a) (iii) The provisions of Article 3 (a) (iii) do not cover passenger cars (HS-codes 8702 and 8703) travelling by their own means."

32. The TIRExB stressed that, where appropriate, the provisions of subparagraphs (a) (i) and (a) (ii) of Article 3 remain applicable to passenger cars transported as goods.

Item 10 Other business

(a) Date of next session

33. The UNECE secretariat has made the necessary arrangements to hold the forty-fourth session of the Administrative Committee on 27 September 2007.

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

(b) Restriction on the distribution of documents

35. 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.

Item 11 Adoption of the report*

36. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 7 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee will adopt the report on its forty-third 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 February 2007.