



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/74
11 August 2004

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

(14-15 October 2004)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF
THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE***

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.00 hours on Thursday, 14 October **/**

^{*/} The UNECE Transport Division has submitted the present document after the official documentation deadline due to resource constraints.

^{**/} 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.111, 1st 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).

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Annex: Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975, countries with which a TIR transit operation can be established and national associations

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The UNECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) will hold its one-hundred-and-eighth session in conjunction with the present session of the Administrative Committee from 11 to 15 October 2004. The agenda for the meeting is contained in document TRANS/WP.30/215 and may be obtained directly from the UNECE secretariat or from the UNECE TIR web site (see page 1). 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 July 2004 the number of States, Contracting Parties to the Convention is sixty-four.

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1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/74.**

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider and adopt the agenda of its present session as prepared by the UNECE secretariat (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/74).

2. STATUS OF THE TIR CONVENTION, 1975

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/69.

The Committee will be informed of the situation concerning the geographical scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975. An up-to-date 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 this agenda and is also available on the UNECE TIR web site (<http://tir.unece.org>). Contracting Parties may wish to verify these listings. As requested, the annex also contains a list of national associations issuing TIR Carnets and providing guarantee coverage.

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>).

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

(a) Activities of the TIRExB

(i) Report by the Chairman of the TIRExB

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/14; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/15; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/16.**

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 reports of the TIRExB at its twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-second sessions held in November 2003, January 2004 and May 2004 respectively for information and endorsement by the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/14; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/15; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/16).

Further information on recent activities of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat as well as on the considerations and decisions taken at the twenty-third (June 2004) and twenty-fourth (October 2004) sessions of the TIRExB will be provided by the Chairman of the TIRExB during the session.

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.

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

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/17**; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/2;
TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2001/13.

Following its decisions on access to and on technical solutions in the use of the ITDB (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/63, paras. 23-26), the Administrative Committee will be informed by the TIR Secretary on the current operation of the ITDB and on progress made in providing on-line access to authorized Customs TIR Focal Points for inquiry procedures.

The ITDB contains at present more than 33,000 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. At present, only so-called "contact information" is released to facilitate inquiry procedures by Customs authorities. The requested data are provided within 24 hours on the basis of a standard request form and only to Customs TIR Focal Points furnishing their personal user code. Based on the experiences made with the ITDB since its inception in 1999 and the release of "contact information" since July 2001, the Administrative Committee may wish to consider whether the present restrictions with regard to access to the ITDB and type of data released should be maintained or modified and under which conditions.

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall, that at its thirty-sixth session, it had urged all Contracting Parties to respect the provisions of Annex 9, Part II paras, 4 and 5 of the Convention concerning transmission of ITDB data with a view that the ITDB becomes a value added tool for Customs authorities. In this context, the Committee may wish to be informed of the status of the transmission of data to the ITDB.

To increase security as well as efficiency in the capture, transmission and processing of relevant data by national associations, Customs authorities and the TIR secretariat, a new electronic version of a data entry mask on CD-ROM has been released by the TIR secretariat and has been transmitted to all TIR Focal Points in June 2002.

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that at its thirty-sixth session, it had decided to launch the ITDB On-line application, which will provide Customs TIR Focal points with an on-line access to update and consult the ITDB (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, para. 14). The Administrative Committee may wish to be informed of the launch.

The Administrative Committee may also wish to recall that, at its thirty-sixth session, it had requested the secretariat to make a feasibility study of the possibilities to enable Customs authorities to update their "own" data online in ITDB (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, para. 14). As a basis for its consideration, the Administrative Committee may wish to refer to document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/17, prepared by the TIR Secretary.

(iii) National and regional TIR workshops and seminars

The Administrative Committee will be informed about the mandated activities of the TIRExB to organize TIR workshops and seminars.

(b) Administration of the TIRExB

(i) Approval of the final accounts for the year 2003

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/9.

The Administrative Committee, at its spring session, took note that the final accounts of the TIRExB for the year 2003 were not yet available and decided to approved the accounts at the present session (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, para. 20).

The Administrative Committee may wish to approve the final accounts of the TIRExB for the year 2003 as contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/9.

(ii) Budget of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2004

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/12.

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.

Since the budget year will only be completed on 31 December 2004, financial statements showing the funds received and expended for the TIRExB in 2004, in line with the internal and external auditing procedures of the United Nations, are not yet available. However, in order to provide transparency about the functioning and financing of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat, document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/12 provides an overview of the financial situation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat as of 30 June 2004.

The complete and final accounts for 2004 are planned to be submitted for approval by the Administrative Committee at its spring session in February 2005.

(iii) Budget proposal and cost plan for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2005

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/13.

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 13 of the Convention, the TIRExB has prepared a budget proposal and a cost plan providing for its operation in the year 2005. The budget proposal and cost plan, as contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/13, is expected to be finalized and approved by the TIRExB at its twenty-third session in October 2003. Modifications, if any, decided upon by the TIRExB at this session, will be reflected in a corrigendum to this document.

The budget proposal and cost plan for the year 2005 do not differ in substantive terms from the approved budget and cost plan for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2004 as contained in TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/8. The budget is basically not increased in overall terms, but, as a consequence of the lower projected exchange rate of the US dollar compared to the Swiss franc, in which most expenditures occur, less funds are projected to be moved forward from 2004 to 2005, which will result in an increase in the funds to be transferred by the IRU for the budget period 2005.

The number of regular Customs and administrative professionals as well as General Service staff constituting the TIR secretariat, together with the TIR Secretary whose costs are borne by the Regular Budget of the UNECE, remain unchanged.

The amount of the resulting levy on each TIR Carnet and the procedure for its collection will be concluded through an exchange of letters between the UNECE and the IRU after the present session based on the decisions of the Committee and will be submitted for endorsement at its session in spring 2005.

The Administrative Committee may wish to approve the budget proposal and cost plan for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2005 as contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/13.

(iv) Alternative sources of funding for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/18.

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that, at its thirty-sixth session, it had taken note of Informal document No. 3 (2004), prepared by the secretariat, providing an overview of the UN budget procedures with a view to including the operation of the TIR secretariat in the regular budget of the UN. The Committee had urged the UNECE secretariat to include the operation into the proposals to be submitted for the UN budget cycle 2006-2007. The Committee requested its Chairperson to transmit its statement to the Executive Secretary of the UNECE (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, paras. 23-28).

The Administrative Committee may wish to be informed about the developments in this field. In this context, the Committee may wish to take note of document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/18, containing a response from the UNECE Executive Secretary to its Chairperson concerning the inclusion of the operation of the TIR secretariat into the regular budget of the UNECE.

(v) Election of members for the TIRExB

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/11

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 2001, the Administrative Committee must, at its forthcoming session in spring 2003, proceed with the election or re-election of the nine members of the TIRExB.

In order to ensure an efficient voting procedure at its forthcoming spring session, the Administrative Committee may wish to confirm the decisions taken earlier in this respect, in particular:

- the comment adopted on 26 June 1998 to the Rules of Procedure of the TIRExB on “representation”, with the exception of paragraph (c) as its provisions relate only to the initial election of Board members and are thus no longer appropriate (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/51, annex and Corr.1);
- the procedure for the election of members of the TIRExB adopted on 26 February 2000 by the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, paras. 31 and 34).

In addition, the Administrative Committee may wish to authorize the UNECE secretariat to issue in November 2004 a document recalling the approved election procedures and soliciting candidates willing to stand for election as members of the TIRExB for the term 2005-2006. The deadline by which nominations would need to be received by the UNECE secretariat is 16 December 2004. No further candidates may be nominated following expiry of this deadline. On 17 December 2004, the UNECE secretariat will circulate a list of candidates who have been nominated by their respective Governments or organizations being Contracting Parties to the Convention.

The Administrative Committee may wish to endorse a proposal by the TIRExB contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/11, prepared by the secretariat, containing a proposal by the TIRExB for modifying the Rules of Procedure of the TIRExB and, possibly, Annex 8, Article 9, para. 2 of the Convention with a view to ensuring the well functioning of the TIRExB by establishing the concept of replacement members and introducing a procedure for by-elections in case of early termination of the terms of office of elected TIRExB members.

The Administrative Committee may wish to approve the election procedure which had been used for the election of members of the TIRExB in 2003 (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/67, paras. 31 and 32) as well as the amendment of the procedure agreed above.

4. AUTHORIZATION FOR PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF TIR CARNETS IN THE YEAR 2005

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 10 (b) of the Convention, the TIRExB shall supervise the centralized printing and distribution to the associations of TIR Carnets which may be performed by an agreed international organization as referred to in Article 6 of the Convention. At its twenty-sixth session, the Administrative Committee had decided on the following procedure and conditions in this respect:

At its annual spring session, the Administrative Committee will authorize an international organization to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets for the following year in accordance with Annex 8, Article 10 (b) of the Convention under the condition that:

- (a) the concerned international organization declares in writing its acceptance of this authorization within 30 days following the decision of the Administrative Committee;
- (b) on the basis of the relevant decisions of the Administrative Committee at its annual autumn session (adoption of the budget for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat, etc.), the required transfer of funds, in accordance with Annex 8, Article 13 of the Convention, will have been effected by the authorized international organization by 15 November each year for the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat during the following year (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 20).

In line with the above decision, the Administrative Committee, at its spring session in 2000 had authorized the IRU to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets for a period of five years as of the year 2001 and to finance, as long as its expenses are not covered by the Regular Budget of the United Nations, the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/57, para. 29).

In a communication received from the Secretary-General of the IRU dated 22 March 2000, the IRU had declared its acceptance of the authorization by the Administrative Committee to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets for a period of five years (2001-2005). Therefore, as long as the above conditions of the Administrative Committee are fulfilled, the IRU will be authorized to print and distribute TIR Carnets in the year 2003.

The Committee may also wish to recall that, at its thirty-fifth session, it had approved a revised Agreement between the UNECE and the IRU as contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/14.

The Administrative Committee, may wish to confirm the authorization as issued at its thirty-fifth session (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/71, para. 53) and the authorization for the year 2005.

5. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE TIR GUARANTEE SYSTEM IN THE YEAR 2005

In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 2 bis of the Convention, entering into force on 12 May 2002, an international organization, as referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Convention, shall be authorized by the Administrative Committee to take on responsibility for the effective organization and functioning of an international guarantee system provided it accepts this responsibility.

The TIR Contact Group, at its seventh session, noted that under the new provisions of the Convention, the IRU, at present administering the international TIR guarantee system, would also need to be authorized by the Contracting Parties to take on responsibility for its effective organization. The expectation was expressed that, given the know-how and experience of the IRU, it will continue to administer the international guarantee chain following entry into force of the new provisions (TRANS/WP.30/2002/18, paras. 20 and 21).

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that, at its thirty-third session, it agreed with the reasons put forward and the proposals on this subject made by the secretariat in the provisional agenda (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/66) and decided to follow the same procedure as adopted for the authorization to print and distribute TIR Carnets, the TIR Carnet being the basis for an international Customs document and, at the same time, proof of the required guarantee coverage (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/69, paras. 41-42).

The Administrative Committee may also wish to recall that, at its thirty-fifth session, it had approved the revised Agreement between UNECE and the IRU which contains a specific reference to the authorization of the IRU to print and distribute TIR Carnets until 31 December 2005 (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/71, paras. 48-50). The Committee at its thirty-sixth session, confirmed the authorization given to the IRU, at its thirty-fifth session, to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets for the years 2004 and 2005 (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, para. 30).

The Administrative Committee may wish to confirm the authorization of the international organization for the organization and functioning of the international guarantee chain for the year 2005.

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

In line with the decision taken at its twenty-fourth session on the procedure for the collection of a levy on TIR Carnets for the financing of the operation of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/49, para. 31 (ii)), the Administrative Committee may wish to recall that it has decided, as a general practice, to authorize the UNECE secretariat to negotiate and arrange with the IRU the required transfer of funds (a) in accordance with Annex 8, Article 13 of the Convention; (b) on the basis of the approved budget for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat for the year 2003 (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2002/5) and (c) in line with the requirements for authorization of an international organization to centrally print and distribute TIR Carnets (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/57, para. 29).

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that, at its thirty-fifth session, it decided, to approve a revised Agreement between the UNECE and the IRU (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/71, paras. 48-50), which contains authorization for the IRU to print and distribute TIR Carnets as well as the authorization for the organization and functioning of the TIR guarantee chain until and including 2005.

The Administrative Committee may wish to be informed about the status of the UNECE/IRU Agreement, which will be transmitted to the forthcoming session of the Administrative Committee in spring 2005 for endorsement.

Furthermore, the Administrative Committee may wish to consider, preliminarily, the revision of the Agreement, in which it is stipulated that it shall be amended or renewed in accordance with the relevant decisions of the TIR Administrative Committee at any of its meetings, but in any case not later than at its first meeting in the year 2005.

7. FUNCTIONS AND ROLES OF THE TIREXB, THE TIR SECRETARIAT AND THE IRU

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/19.

The Administrative Committee, at its thirty-sixth session, considered document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/11, prepared at the request of the Working Party (WP.30), containing the views of the Chairman of WP.30 on the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in the TIR system. The Administrative Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a document for the UNECE Working Party WP.30 containing proposals for the inclusion of parts C, D, E and F of document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/11 into point 1.9 of the introduction to the TIR Handbook (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/71, paras. 55-57).

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, considered document TRANS/WP.30/2004/16, prepared by the secretariat, which contained the elements to be included into point 1.9 of the introduction of the TIR Handbook concerning the roles and responsibilities of the national guaranteeing associations, the international organization, the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat. At the same time, the Working Party considered informal document No. 3 (2004), prepared by the secretariat, containing proposals for the inclusion of new elements to the Terms of Reference and the Rules of Procedure of the TIR Executive Board based on the proposals included in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/11 prepared by the Chairman of the Working Party. When considering the elements to be included in the introduction to the TIR Handbook, the secretariat had discovered a number of points concerning the TIRExB, which it believed did not fit into the TIR Handbook. Instead, it seemed relevant to include these elements into the Terms of Reference and the Rules of Procedure of the TIRExB. The Working Party agreed with the proposals and requested the secretariat to prepare these proposals for adoption by the TIR Administrative Committee and the TIRExB, respectively, according to the provisions governing the TIRExB (TRANS/WP.30/214, paras. 44 and 45).

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/19, prepared by the secretariat, containing a proposal for a new paragraph 2 bis to the Terms of Reference of the TIRExB.

8. REVISION OF THE CONVENTION

(a) Implementation of Phase I of the TIR revision process

The Administrative Committee may wish to continue its exchange of views about possible difficulties that may arise in the application of the provisions that have come into force under Phase I of the TIR revision process, particularly with regard to controlled access to the TIR procedure in accordance with Annex 9, Part II of the Convention (ECE/TRANS/17/Amend.19/Rev.1).

The Administrative Committee may wish to reiterate that Contracting Parties are expected to fully comply with the provisions of the Convention, also with regard to the transmission to the TIRExB, within the stipulated time frames, of the following information (refer also to document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2000/5):

International guarantee system

- (a) A certified copy of the written agreement or any other legal instrument between the competent authorities (Customs) and the national association as well as any modifications thereto (Deadline: as soon as possible);
- (b) A certified copy of the insurance or financial guarantee contract as well as any modifications thereto (Deadline: as soon as possible);
- (c) A copy of the (annually to be renewed) insurance certificate (Deadline: as soon as possible).

Controlled access to the TIR procedure

- (a) The particulars of each person authorized by the competent authorities to use TIR Carnets or whose authorization has been withdrawn (Deadline: within one week);
- (b) A complete and updated list of all persons authorized by the competent authorities to use TIR Carnets or whose authorization has been withdrawn (Deadline: as per 31 December each year and as soon as possible);
- (c) The particulars of each person excluded from the operation of the Convention in accordance with Article 38 (Deadline: within one week).

National control measures

The details of any national control measures planned to be undertaken by the competent national authorities in accordance with Article 42 bis (Deadline: as soon as possible).

(b) Implementation of Phase II of the TIR revision process

The Administrative Committee may wish to have an exchange of views about possible difficulties that may have arisen in the application of the new provisions that have come into force under Phase II of the TIR revision process (ECE/TRANS/17/Amend.21).

The objectives of these amendments, as well as their implementation, has been considered at the seventh session of the TIR Contact Group in Athens (22 and 23 April 2002). The report of the session is contained in document TRANS/WP.30/2002/18. The secretariat is monitoring the implementation of the new provisions of the Convention at the national level and will inform the Administrative Committee accordingly.

(c) Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

The Administrative Committee may wish to be informed about progress made in the preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process within the UNECE Working Party (WP.30) (TRANS/WP.30/208, paras. 26-30) and its ad hoc group of experts on the computerization of the TIR procedure.

The Administrative Committee may wish to provide guidance on the approach and working methods to be taken in order to arrive at tangible solutions in due course.

9. OTHER PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION

(a) Draft amendments on a control system for TIR Carnets

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/6; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2003/10.

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that, at its thirty-sixth session, it had considered document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/6, prepared by the secretariat, containing a detailed proposal for inclusion of a control system for TIR Carnets in the Convention. The Committee took note that the European Community was not yet in a position to adopt the proposal and decided to revert to the question at its present session.

The Administrative Committee may wish to revert to the consideration of document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/6 and to be informed about the positions of Contracting Parties.

(b) Other amendment proposals

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/10.

At its one-hundred-and-second session, the Working Party considered document TRANS/WP.30/2002/27 containing information on a cable with integrated fibre-optic, which, if used as a TIR cable, could offer increased security against tampering and unauthorized access to the load compartment as well as provide improved facilities of remote monitoring of the integrity of the load compartment via connection to a GPS system (TRANS/WP.30/204, para. 54) .

At its one-hundred-and-fourth meeting, the Working Party was informed by the German delegation, that, based on a test of the fastening cable with integrated fibre optic, it was of the view that the cable is tamper-proof for Customs purposes (Informal document No. 4 (2003); TRANS/WP.30/208, paras. 48-49).

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh meeting, again studied the issue, considering documents TRANS/WP.30/2004/15 and Informal document No. 1 (2004) concerning the use of a cable with fibre-optic protection. The Working Party agreed, in principle with the proposal contained in Informal document No. 1 (2004), together with some minor modifications, and requested the secretariat to prepare an official document with the modified proposal for its next session in October 2004 and, in parallel, to prepare a document with the same proposal for the TIR Administrative Committee for possible adoption in October 2004 (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 52).

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/10, prepared by the secretariat, containing a consolidated proposal concerning the use of fibre-optic cables and to be informed about the decisions of the Working Party at its one-hundred-and-eighth session in this context.

10. APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION

(a) Comments adopted by the UNECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30)

At the present time, there are no comments for adoption by the Administrative Committee.

(b) Comments adopted by the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/20.

The Administrative Committee may wish to recall that at its thirty-sixth session, it had considered a comment that has been adopted by the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) at its eighteenth session. This comment relates to falsified acceptance of a TIR Carnet at the Customs office of departure. The Committee had felt that the title of the comment should be changed.

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/20, prepared by the secretariat, containing a revised text of the comment.

11. TIR HANDBOOK

The TIR Handbook contains the latest amendments to the Convention as well as all relevant comments adopted by the UNECE Working Party (WP.30) and the Administrative Committee. The TIR Handbook can be viewed and downloaded from the UNECE TIR web site in various languages (<http://tir.unece.org>). Updated hard-copy versions of the TIR Handbook are available in Chinese, English, French, German and Russian. A limited number of such copies may be obtained free of charge from the secretariat.

12. TIR WEB SITE

The web site address is: <http://tir.unuce.org>. In addition to numerous language versions of the TIR Handbook, the TIR web site provides up-to-date information on the administration and application of the TIR Convention. It contains the latest information on legal interpretations of the TIR Convention, on Depositary Notifications and national and international control measures introduced by Customs authorities, the TIR Administrative Committee and the TIRExB. Furthermore, the TIR web site provides detailed information on all TIR Focal Points who may be contacted regarding questions on the application of the Convention at the national level. The TIR web site also contains all documents and reports issued in connection with the sessions of the Administrative Committee and the UNECE Working Party (WP.30). These documents may be viewed and downloaded (PDF format) in English, French and Russian.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Date of next session

In accordance with the decisions of the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/57, para. 44; TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 44) the UNECE secretariat has made the necessary arrangements to hold the forthcoming spring session of the Administrative Committee on 3 and 4 February 2005.

The Administrative Committee may wish to confirm the date of this thirty-eighth 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.

14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 7 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee will adopt the report on its thirty-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.

Annex

<u>Contracting Parties</u>	<u>Countries with which a TIR transit operation can be established</u> ^{*/}	<u>National associations</u> ^{**/}
Afghanistan	-	-
Albania	Albania	ANALTIR
Algeria	-	-
Armenia	Armenia	AIRCA
Austria	Austria	AISÖ
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	ABADA
Belarus	Belarus	BAIRC
Belgium	Belgium	FEBETRA
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-
Bulgaria	Bulgaria	AEBTRI
Canada-	-	-
Chile	-	-
Croatia	Croatia	TRANSPORTKOMERC
Cyprus	Cyprus	TDA
Czech Republic	Czech Republic	CESMAD BOHEMIA
Denmark	Denmark	DTL
Estonia	Estonia	ERAA
FinlandFinland	SKAL	
France	France	AFTRI
Georgia	Georgia	GIRCA
Germany	Germany	BGL - AIST
Greece	Greece	OFAE
Hungary	Hungary	ATRH
Indonesia	-	-
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	ICCIM
Ireland	Ireland	IRHA
Israel	Israel	IRTB
Italy	Italy	UICCIAA
Jordan	Jordan	RACJ
Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan	KAZATO
Kuwait	Kuwait	KATC
Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyzstan	KYRGYZ AIA
Latvia	Latvia	LA

^{*/} Based on information provided by the IRU.

^{**/} For details, refer to the International Directory of TIR Focal Points administered by the UNECE secretariat (<http://www.unece.org/trans/bcf/tir/focal/tirfocalpoints.htm>). The access to the web site is restricted and only open for TIR Focal Points.

<u>Contracting Parties</u>	<u>Countries with which a TIR transit operation can be established</u> ^{*/}	<u>National associations</u> ^{**/}
Lebanon	Lebanon	CCIAB
Lithuania	Lithuania	LINAVA
Luxembourg	Luxembourg	FEBETRA
Malta	Malta	ATTO
Mongolia	Mongolia	NARTAM
Morocco	Morocco	AMTRI
Netherlands	Netherlands	SCT/TLN - KNV - EVO/SIEV
Norway	Norway	NLF
Poland	Poland	ZMPD
Portugal	Portugal	ANTRAM
Republic of Korea	-	-
Republic of Moldova	Republic of Moldova	AITA
Romania	Romania	UNTRR
Russian Federation	Russian Federation	ASMAP
Serbia and Montenegro	Serbia and Montenegro	CCIS-ATT
Slovakia	Slovakia	CESMAD SLOVAKIA
Slovenia	Slovenia	GIZ INTERTRANSPORT
Spain	Spain	ASTIC
Sweden	Sweden	SA
Switzerland	Switzerland	ASTAG
Syrian Arab Republic	Syrian Arab Republic	SNC ICC
Tajikistan	Tajikistan	ABBAT
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	AMERIT
Tunisia Tunisia	CCIT	
Turkey	Turkey	UCCET
Turkmenistan	Turkmenistan	THADA
Ukraine	Ukraine	AIRCU
United Kingdom	United Kingdom	RHA - FTA
United States of America	-	-
Uruguay	-	-
Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	AIRCUZ
European Community		

^{*/} Based on information provided by the IRU.

^{**/} For details, refer to the International Directory of TIR Focal Points administered by the UNECE secretariat

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Annex 3

(<http://www.unece.org/trans/bcf/tir/focal/tirfocalpoints.htm>). The access to the web site is restricted and only open for TIR Focal Points.



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

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UNECE - Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention

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...		
Participating From / Until		
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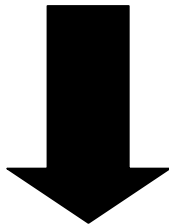
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