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## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975**

#### **Fifty-ninth session**

Geneva, 8 October 2013

Item 4 (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 the operation of the TIR Executive Board and  
TIR secretariat in 2015**

### **Financing of the operations of the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat: Budget Proposal and Cost Plan for 2015**

#### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **A. Background**

1. At its 137<sup>th</sup> session, the Working Party took note of the joint initiative by the UNECE secretariat and IRU to push the introduction of one part of the eTIR system. It took note of the so-called UNECE-IRU eTIR Pilot Project described in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2014/9 as well as the further steps envisaged for transition to a fully-fledged eTIR system. The Working Party took note that, while introducing a number of differences compared to the eTIR system as described in the eTIR Reference Model, this pilot project aims at testing a fully paper-less TIR procedure using, to the extent possible, existing ICT systems and procedures. A first version of the eTIR international system will also be developed at UNECE to ensure the integrity of data exchange via the IRU. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and Ukraine indicated their willingness to take part in the pilot project as a step towards the full computerization of the TIR procedure. Iran (Islamic Republic of) also indicated that it is positively considering to contribute to this pilot. Other delegations, while informing the Working Party of not being in a position to volunteer taking part in the pilot, expressed the interest of being informed about progress in and results of the Pilot Project, re-confirming their full support offer the eTIR final objectives and general concepts, as contained in the eTIR Reference Model (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/274, para. 18).

2. Since then, UNECE and IRU have continued their efforts to launch the Pilot Project. Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Turkey have volunteered to take part in it.

3. As part of its contribution to the Pilot Project, IRU has offered to cover the costs incurred by UNECE for engaging one additional professional staff to manage the technical aspects linked to the Pilot Project, as well as for establishing the infrastructure necessary to host the light-weight eTIR international system (see also Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2014) No. 11).

4. According to its programme of work, one of the main priority activities of TIRExB is to facilitate the computerization of the TIR procedure (see, for the 2013-2014 term of office, document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2013/7).

5. The purpose of this document is to submit a proposal to AC.2 allowing for the additional transfer of the funds required for the launch and implementation of the Pilot Project by IRU to the TIR Trust Fund for the year 2015.

## **B. Proposal by the secretariat**

7. In order to allow for the smooth and expedient transfer of the required funds to hire a temporary technical expert by UNECE, together with the purchase, implementation and maintenance of the necessary infrastructure to host the light-weight eTIR international system, the Committee is requested to provisionally (subject to the submission of a detailed financial statement to be approved by the Committee at its next session) agree that IRU transfers, on an exceptional basis, the necessary additional funds to the TIR Trust Fund. UNECE shall include these separate funds in its annual report on the complete and final accounts, for approval by AC.2. The activities financed through the separate budget line shall be administered by the UNECE in accordance with the applicable United Nations financial regulations, rules and directives.

8. In case of a continuation of the Pilot Project beyond the year 2015, the secretariat shall submit a new request for inclusion of a separate budget line in the TIRExB budget for 2016, for approval by the Committee.

## **C. Considerations by the Committee**

9. The Committee is invited to support and approve this exceptional transfer of funds by IRU to the TIR Trust Fund for the year 2015.

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