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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

**Group of Experts on Conceptual and
Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure**

Informal preparatory meeting

Geneva, 3-4 November 2020

Item 6 (e) of the provisional agenda

**eTIR conceptual, functional and technical documentation
Amendments**

Replication of ITDB TIR Carnet holder and customs office data

Note by the secretariat

I. Introduction

1. At its thirty-first session, while discussing the approved amendments contained in Informal document GE.1 No. 5 (2020), Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1) considered the fallback scenario for message of the “Get holder information” use case (messages I3/I4) and, in particular, was of the opinion that more information was required on how a “local replica” of the ITDB would be managed and how customs would be informed of its usage.

2. Consequently, the GE.1 requested the secretariat to prepare a document for its next session presenting technical details of the replication, such as the replications frequency and how customs administrations would be notified that the ITDB replica is used (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2020/5, para. 18).

II. Replication mechanism

(a) General principle

3. The replication will rely on a daily copy of the database tables, which contain the relevant TIR Carnet holder and customs offices data, from the ITDB to the eTIR international system. The Figure 1 provides a visual representation of the replication mechanism.

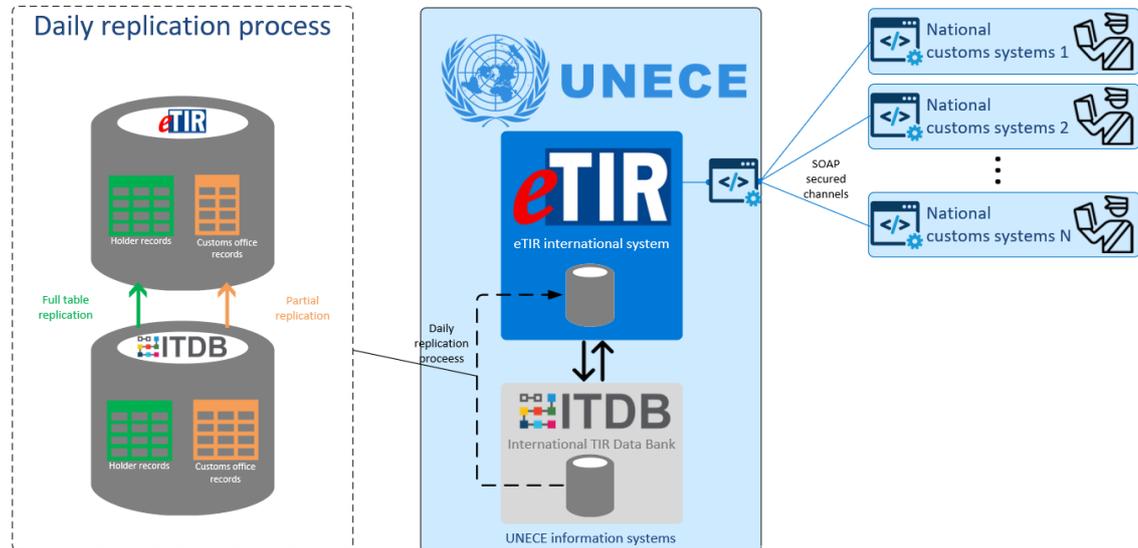


Figure 1 - Replication schema

(b) TIR Carnet holder and customs office data

4. The data replication method will be “incremental”, i.e. only the differences between the original database and the replica will be exchanged daily at scheduled times. This method will reduce the amount of data to be exchanged and thus ensure the least burden on both systems.

5. For the holder data, the replication scheme will be “full data” because most data stored in the columns of the “holder” table is used in eTIR. The replication will also include other tables, such as the “Exclusions” and “Withdrawal”, since they also contain information required for the validation or generation of eTIR messages.

6. For the customs offices data, the replication scheme will be “partial” as the “customs offices” table contains numerous information that are not used by the eTIR international system (such as address, email contact, ...).

7. The eTIR international system will also store the time and date of the replication. This information will be communicated whenever the replica is used instead of the ITDB.

(c) Schedule

8. The replication will be scheduled at a time when the ITDB and the eTIR International system load is minimal and will be revised if necessary.

III. Notifications

9. The eTIR international system needs the ITDB to generate the following messages: E6-Query results, I4-Holder information, I6-Query results, I10-Start results, I12-Termination results and I20-Customs offices validation. Whenever the ITDB would not be available, the local ITDB replica contained in the eTIR international system would be used and the messages above would contain a warning code (describing that the ITDB is not available and that the replica has been used) and, if possible, the date and time of replication. For more information on the handling of warnings in eTIR messages, please refer to Annex II (I) of Informal document WP.30/GE.1 No.3 (2020).

IV. Next steps

10. The Group of Experts is invited to consider the mechanism described in this document and provide the secretariat with detailed instructions on how to further proceed.
