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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

14 October 2008

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

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Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and
Technical aspects of Computerization of the TIR
Procedure

Fourteenth session

Geneva, 16-17 October 2008

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ETIR

Note by the secretariat

A. BACKGROUND

1. At its fourteenth session, the Expert Group welcomed the draft questionnaire contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.1/2008/2. Considering its well-outlined mandate, the Expert Group felt that there was no need to seek guidance from the Working Party prior to the distribution of the questionnaire. Thus, it requested the secretariat to amend the questionnaire in line with the Group's findings and to circulate it by email among the participants in the Expert Group before sending it out to Customs administrations. The questionnaire was sent on 30 June 2008 with a submission deadline set to 20 September 2008.

B. RESULTS

2. The following countries replied to the questionnaire providing figures: Jordan, Netherlands, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey. The European Commissions, Greece and Croatia replied that they were not in a position to answer the questionnaire in view of the lack of detailed technical information regarding the eTIR project. The Republic of Montenegro replied that they were not yet in a position to provide information since they have only start the TIR procedure since January 2008. Finally, a number of countries have requested translations of the questionnaire in French or Russian and ultimately did send an answer the questionnaire in English.

3. The answers to the questionnaire will be made available in the meeting room.

C. FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

4. In view of the few replies received so far, the Expert Group may wish to postpone its discussion on the financial issues. It may also reconsider whether it would be more appropriate to wait until the finalization of Chapter 4 of the Reference Model before seeking additional information on the national financial consequences of the implementation of the eTIR project.
