



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
20 February 2017

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

Group of Experts on Legal Aspects of the Computerization of the TIR Procedure

Fourth session

Geneva, 16 and 17 May 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fourth session*, **

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 16 May 2017, Room VIII.

* 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 official documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, documents may be obtained directly from the UNECE Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; e-mail: wp.30@unece.org). Documents may also be downloaded from the UNECE Border Crossing Facilitation website www.unece.org/trans/bcf/welcome.html. During the meeting, documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

** The full text of the Convention, as well as complete lists of Contracting Parties to the Convention referred to in this agenda are available on the UNECE website: www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html#customs. Delegates are requested to register online at: www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=iSuCpj or to complete the registration form available from www.unece.org/meetings/practical_information/confpart.pdf and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest one week prior to the session, either by fax (+41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (wp.30@unece.org). Prior to the session, delegates who do not hold a long-term access badge should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (internal extension 75975). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Compatibility of the eTIR legal framework with national legal requirements: survey on electronic authentication methods.
4. Identification of the holder and verification of the integrity of electronic data interchange messages.
5. Financing of the eTIR international system.
6. Format, administrative structure and substantive content of the eTIR legal framework.
7. Provisions of the TIR Convention that may be affected by the introduction of eTIR.
8. Other business.
9. Dates of the next session.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/7

2. Election of officers

The Group of Experts on Legal Aspects of the Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.2) is invited to elect a Chair and, possibly, a vice-Chair, in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, to steer its work in 2017.

3. Compatibility of the eTIR legal framework with national legal requirements: survey on electronic authentication methods

At its previous session, GE.2 welcomed the preliminary results of the survey collecting information on the legal requirements for authenticating the sender of electronic information as well as on the methods used and was of the view that there would be merit in reviewing the responses individually rather than grouped and that the results would be more representative if more Contracting Parties, particularly outside of the European Union (EU) and the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS), would reply. Against this background, GE.2 is invited to consider Informal Document (2017) 1.

Documentation

Informal Document (2017) No. 1

4. Identification of the holder and verification of the integrity of electronic data interchange messages

Under this agenda item, GE.2 will be invited to take note of a presentation and consider document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/3, submitted by the Russian Federation (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, para. 15) and elaborating on its position in favour of reliance on trusted third parties for the purpose of authentications in the eTIR context. GE.2 may also wish to recall the recommendation by GE.1 on the mutual recognition of authentications of the sender of electronic information performed in the country of departure, bearing in mind that the eTIR international system provides for secure exchange of data between customs administrations. Furthermore, GE.2 will be reminded that Informal document WP.30/GE.2 (2016) No. 3, issued in connection with the previous session as a submission by the delegation of the Russian Federation (in the Russian language only), has been issued as formal document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/2 in, also, English and French. GE.2 may wish to take note of this document.

In light of the above, GE.2 will be invited to continue its discussions on the preferred authentication mechanism(s) for the purposes of implementing eTIR.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/2, ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/3

5. Financing of the eTIR international system

GE.2 may wish to recall its extensive discussions on the issue of financing the eTIR international system (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, paras. 6-11). GE.2 will be reminded that the relevant document (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2016/7) had been transmitted for the consideration of the Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport (WP.30) and that the issue had been brought, also, to the attention of the Inland Transport Committee that met on 21-24 February 2017. GE.2 will be informed about the outcome of these discussions, in light of which GE.2 may wish to continue its considerations on financing options for the eTIR international system.

6. Format, administrative structure and substantive content of the eTIR legal framework

GE.2 will be informed that its recommendation to focus on the elaboration of an optional Annex to the TIR Convention (as per the proposal tabled by the delegation of Switzerland) was endorsed by WP.30. The Group of Experts will, further, be invited to continue its consideration of the draft optional Annex as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/1. As per the decision of GE.2 at its previous session, this document elaborates the provisions in line with the comments and instructions provided to document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2016/9 (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, paras. 24-30). As such the document contains:

(a) Amendments to the main body of the Convention (in line with ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, paras. 26 and 27);

(b) Text of Annex 11:

(i) Provisions relating to definitions and scope;

(ii) Provisions relating to the legal status and amendment procedure for the eTIR Reference Model (in line with ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, para. 28);

(iii) Provisions relating to the responsibilities of UNECE;

(iv) Provisions relating to data handling and storage;

(v) Provisions relating to authentication and mechanisms for submitting advance cargo information (in line with ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6, paras. 14-20);

(vi) Provisions relating to the fall-back procedure (in line with ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/6 para. 29);

(vii) Miscellaneous provisions.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/GE.2/2017/1

7. Provisions of the TIR Convention that may be affected by the introduction of eTIR

GE.2 has agreed at previous sessions that the question of provisions of the TIR Convention, 1975 that may be affected by the introduction of the eTIR legal framework, should be closely monitored and assessed as the work progresses. Against this background, GE.2 is invited to raise related issues or concerns, if any, for further discussion.

8. Other business

Proposals under this agenda item should be transmitted to the secretariat in advance of the session.

9. Dates of the next session

GE.2 may wish to decide on the dates of its next session. The secretariat has tentatively made arrangements for the fifth session to be held on 30 and 31 October 2017.
