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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Customs Questions
affecting Transport****151st session**

Geneva, 5–8 February 2019

Item 4 (b) (iii) of the provisional agenda

**Customs Convention on the International Transport
of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR
Convention, 1975):****Revision of the Convention:****Draft Annex 11 to the TIR Convention****Administrative Committee for the TIR
Convention, 1975****Sixty-ninth session**

Geneva, 7 February 2019

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

**Phase III of the TIR revision process – Computerization of
the TIR procedure****Other legal provisions****Note by the secretariat****I. Background and mandate**

1. At its 150th session (October 2018), the Working Party continued its considerations of draft Annex 11 on the basis of document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2018/16, agreeing to go through the document article by article (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20).
2. In conclusion, the secretariat was requested to prepare a new document for consideration of the Working Party at its next session. The Working Party agreed that this new document could tentatively also be tabled for the TIR Administrative Committee (AC.2) on the assumption that, in case the Working Party would manage to finalize discussions at its 151st session, the document could immediately be transferred to AC.2 for consideration at its sixty-ninth session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 21).
3. Further to this request, the secretariat prepared this document, which contains, in Part II the tentatively adopted amendment proposals and, in Part III, in sequence, the original wording of certain provisions, the considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session and a new proposal by the secretariat. The Annex to this document contains the consolidated text of accepted provisions and new proposals for the body of the Convention as well as draft Annex 11 for discussion and, possibly, adoption by the Working Party.

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II. Tentatively adopted amendment proposals

4. At its 150th session, the Working Party considered and, tentatively, adopted the following amendment proposals:

- (a) Article 1 (s);
- (b) Article 43;
- (c) New Article 58 quater;
- (d) Article 59;
- (e) New Article 60 bis;
- (f) Article 61;
- (g) Annex 11, Article 1; Article 2 (a), (c) and (d); Articles 3, 5, 6 and 7, Articles 11 and 12;
- (h) Explanatory Notes to Article 5, paragraph 3, Article 6, paragraph 2.

III. New proposals further to considerations by the Working Party

A. Article 2 (b)

Original text:¹

Article 2 (b) The term "advance cargo information" shall mean the information provided to the competent authorities in the prescribed form and manner of the intention of the holder, or his or her representative, to place goods under the eTIR procedure or pursue a TIR transport.

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

Various delegations raised concerns over the use of the terms “cargo” and “information”. Taking into account that this term was also used in the eTIR specifications, the secretariat was requested to prepare a new proposal for consideration at the next session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (h)).

New proposal by the secretariat:

*Article 2 (b) The term "advance TIR data" shall mean the data provided to the competent authorities in the prescribed form and manner of the intention of the holder, or his or her representative, to place goods under the eTIR procedure or pursue a TIR transport.*²

¹ As contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2018/16.

² As recommended by the Informal Ad hoc Group of Experts on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1) at its 29th session (Rotterdam, 14 and 15 November 2018).

B. New Article 2 (e)

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

The secretariat raised the issue whether or not the term “eTIR technical specifications” required further clarification. Whereas the delegation of Turkey was of the opinion that any clarification at present might become a blocking factor in the future, the delegation of the European Union advocated that also soft rules needed specification somewhere in the eTIR documentation, but that this could still be included at a later stage (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (i)). The secretariat further informed the Working Party that it would prepare additional proposals, elaborating on the Rules of Procedure for the Technical Implementation Body, for consideration at the next session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (k)).

New proposals by the secretariat for new Article 2 (e), Article 4 and new Article 5:

Article 2 (e) The term “eTIR specifications” shall mean the conceptual, functional and technical specifications of the eTIR procedure adopted and amended in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Annex.

Article 4

Composition, functions and rules of procedure of the Technical Implementation Body

1. The Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 shall be members of the Technical Implementation Body. Its sessions shall be convened at regular intervals or at the request of the Administrative Committee, as required for the maintenance of the eTIR specifications. The Administrative Committee shall be regularly informed of the activities and considerations of the Technical Implementation Body.

2. Contracting Parties which have not accepted Annex 11 as provided for in Article 60 bis, paragraph 1 and representatives of international organizations may attend sessions of the Technical Implementation Body as observers.

3. The Technical Implementation Body shall monitor the technical and functional aspects of implementing the eTIR procedure, as well as coordinate and foster the exchange of information on matters falling within its competence.

4. The Technical Implementation Body shall, at its first session, adopt its rules of procedure.

New Article 5

Adoption and amendment procedures for the eTIR specifications

1. The Technical Implementation Body shall adopt the technical specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, to ensure their alignment with the functional specifications of the eTIR procedure. At the time of adoption, it shall decide on the appropriate transitional period for their implementation.

2. The Technical Implementation Body shall prepare the functional specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, to ensure their alignment with the conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure. They shall be transmitted to the Administrative Committee for adoption by a majority of Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 present and voting as well as implemented and, when required, developed into technical specifications at a date to be determined at the time of adoption.

3. The Technical Implementation Body shall consider amendments to the conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure if so requested by the Administrative Committee. The conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, shall be

adopted by a majority of Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 present and voting as well as implemented and, when required, developed into functional specification at a date to be determined at the time of adoption.

C. Article 8

Original text:

Article 8

Additional data requirements

Competent authorities should limit data requirements to those contained in the functional and technical specifications. However, if additional data requirements are imposed, the competent authorities shall endeavour to facilitate the submission of such data so as not to impede TIR transports carried out in accordance with this Annex.

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

The delegation of the European Union requested clarification of the term “additional data requirements”. The secretariat clarified that this term does not refer to the World Customs Organization Safe Framework of Standards transit-related data, as they have been incorporated as optional data elements in the eTIR messages, but to other data that could be requested nationally on the basis of other agreements or national legislation. The delegation of Turkey expressed its satisfaction with the chosen wording of the article, as it called upon contracting parties to take measures to facilitate the submission of any such additional data requirements. Further to a question from the delegation of the European Union about the use of the term “imposed”, the Working Party agreed that the term “imposed by legislation” might be a more accurate formulation (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (p)).

New proposal by the secretariat:

Article 9 (renumbered)

Competent authorities should limit data requirements to those contained in the functional and technical specifications. However, if additional data requirements are imposed by legislation, the competent authorities shall endeavour to facilitate the submission of such data so as not to impede TIR transports carried out in accordance with this Annex.

D. Article 9

Original text:

Article 9

Fallback procedure

In the event that an eTIR procedure is impeded for technical reasons, the competent authorities:

(a) may use the electronic fallback system as defined in the functional and technical specifications; or

(b) shall accept the accompanying document in line with the procedure described in the functional and technical specifications.

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

Further to questions from various delegations, the Working Party agreed that the paper fallback procedure should come first and that electronic fallback systems, if necessary, should only be used as last resort. Furthermore, the secretariat recalled that the issue of fallback procedures was still under discussion by GE.1 and that it would be addressed at its twenty-ninth session. The Working Party requested the secretariat to propose, if necessary, a revised wording of Article 9, once GE.1 had finalized its discussions (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (q)).

New proposal by the secretariat:

Article 10 (renumbered)

In the event that an eTIR procedure is impeded for technical reasons, the competent authorities:

(a) shall accept the accompanying document and process it in line with the procedure described in the functional and technical specifications; or

(b) may obtain additional information from alternative electronic systems as described in the functional and technical specifications.

E. Article 10

Original text:

Article 10

Hosting of the eTIR international system

- 1. The eTIR international system shall be hosted under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).*
- 2. UNECE shall assist countries in connecting their customs systems to the eTIR international system, including by means of conformance tests to ensure their proper functioning prior to the operational connection.*
- 3. [Pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, unless the eTIR international system is financed by resources of the United Nations regular budget, the required resources shall be subject to the financial rules and regulations for extra-budgetary funds and projects of the United Nations. The financing mechanism and budget for the operation of the eTIR international system at the UNECE shall be decided and approved by the Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention].*

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

Various delegations and the secretariat provided inputs to improve the wording of Article 10 as well as its accompanying Explanatory Note to paragraph 3. While stressing that funding could possibly be obtained through the regular budget of the United Nations, in particular if the United Nations would increase its technical assistance to countries in their efforts to computerize international agreements, the Working Party agreed that this option should be clearly mentioned as well as further explored by the secretariat because the important eTIR initiative presents a rare window of opportunity. In addition, the Working Party agreed with the proposal by the delegation of Turkey that if an amount per TIR transport should be used to finance the operational costs of the eTIR international system, this amount should be calculated on and charged for all TIR transports, not only on those carried out under the eTIR procedure. Furthermore, the Working Party agreed that the preparation of a budget to host and administer the eTIR international system should involve

not only contracting parties but also UNECE and the Technical Implementation Body. The agreed reformulated text of Article 10 and the Explanatory Note to its paragraph 3 are as follows, subject to editorial changes:

New proposal:

Article 11 (renumbered)

Hosting of the eTIR international system

1. *The eTIR international system shall be hosted and administered under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).*

2. *UNECE shall assist countries in connecting their customs systems to the eTIR international system, including by means of conformance tests to ensure their proper functioning prior to the operational connection.*

3. *The necessary resources shall be made available to UNECE to fulfil the obligations set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article. Unless the eTIR international system is financed by resources from the United Nations regular budget, the required resources shall be subject to the financial rules and regulations for extrabudgetary funds and projects of the United Nations. The financing mechanism for the operation of the eTIR international system at UNECE shall be decided on and approved by the Administrative Committee.* (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (r)).

F. Article 13

Original text:

Article 13

Legal requirements for data submission under Annex 10 of the TIR Convention

The legal requirements for data submission, as set out in Annex 10, paragraph 1, 3 and 4 of this Convention, are deemed to be fulfilled by implementing the eTIR procedure in accordance with Annex 11.

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

No comments other than that, at the proposal by the secretariat, the words “in accordance with Annex 11” would be deleted because they were considered redundant in combination with the definition of the term “eTIR procedure” in the proposed new article 1 (s) of the Convention (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (u)).

Proposal by the secretariat:

Article 14 (renumbered)

The legal requirements for data submission, as set out in Annex 10, paragraph 1, 3 and 4 of this Convention, are deemed to be fulfilled by implementing the eTIR procedure ~~in accordance with Annex 11.~~

G. Part I – Article 3, paragraph 2

Original text:

Explanatory notes

Part I – Article 3, paragraph 2

Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 are recommended to connect their national customs system to the eTIR international system at the moment Annex 11 enters into force for them, but ideally not later than one year as of that date.

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

Whereas the text of the legal provision seemed acceptable, concerns were raised with regard to its accompanying Explanatory Note. The delegation of the European Union could agree to introducing a deadline for the implementation of eTIR, but was of the opinion that, for example, a time frame of three years for contracting parties and a period of five years for contracting parties forming a customs union seemed more appropriate, as a time period of one year could be too ambitious even for a single contracting party. The delegation of Turkey advocated that, as political willingness and available resources dictate the reality of any given time frame, it could be better not to mention a time frame at all if the set time frame would envisage a period longer than one or two years. The delegation of the European Union did not share this view, indicating that any time frame, how loosely formulated it might be, had its merits in guiding contracting parties towards implementing the eTIR system. The secretariat was requested to propose an alternative wording for consideration at the next session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (j)).

Proposal by the secretariat:

*Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 are recommended to have their national customs system updated and its connection with the eTIR international system ensured as soon as Annex 11 enters into force for them. Customs or economic unions may decide on a later date, allowing them time to connect the national customs systems of all their member States to the eTIR international system.*³

H. Part I - Article 10, paragraph 3

Original text:

Part I - Article 10, paragraph 3

Contracting Parties shall decide on the appropriate time at which the operational costs of the eTIR international system shall be financed through an amount per TIR transport [carried out under the eTIR procedure]. The exact modalities of such financing shall be decided by the Administrative Committee [in accordance with Article 60 bis].

Considerations by the Working Party at its 150th session:

Part I – Article 11, paragraph 3 (renumbered)

If necessary, Contracting Parties may decide to finance the operational costs of the eTIR international system through an amount per TIR transport. In such cases, Contracting Parties shall decide on the appropriate time to introduce alternative financing mechanisms and on their modalities. The required budget shall be prepared by UNECE,

³ As recommended by GE.1 at its 29th session (Rotterdam, 14 and 15 November 2018).

reviewed by the Technical Implementation Body and approved by the Administrative Committee (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/300, para. 20 (r)).

Annex

Consolidated draft eTIR legal framework¹

A. Amendments to the TIR Convention

1. Article 1, new paragraph (s)

(s) The term “eTIR procedure” shall mean the TIR procedure, implemented by means of electronic exchange of data, which provides the functional equivalent to the TIR Carnet. The eTIR procedure is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Annex 11.

2. Article 43

The Explanatory Notes set out in Annex 6, ~~and~~ Annex 7, Part III, *and Annex 11, Part II* interpret certain provisions of this Convention and its Annexes. They also describe certain recommended practices.

3. New Article 58 quarter

A Technical Implementation Body shall be established. Its composition, functions and rules of procedure are set out in Annex 11.

4. Article 59

1. This Convention, including its Annexes, may be amended upon the proposal of a Contracting Party by the procedure specified in this Article.

2. *Except as provided for under Articles 60 bis*, any proposed amendment to this Convention shall be considered by the Administrative Committee composed of all the Contracting Parties in accordance with the rules of procedure set out in Annex 8. Any such amendment considered or prepared during the meeting of the Administrative Committee and adopted by it by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Contracting Parties for their acceptance.

3. Except as provided for under Articles 60 *and 60 bis*, any proposed amendment communicated in accordance with the preceding paragraph shall come into force with respect to all Contracting Parties three months after the expiry of a period of twelve months following the date of communication of the proposed amendment during which period no objection to the proposed amendment has been communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by a State which is a Contracting Party.

¹ Amendments as compared to the existing text of the Convention as well as new Articles are in *bold italics*

4. If an objection to the proposed amendment has been communicated in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article, the amendment shall be deemed not to have been accepted and shall have no effect whatsoever.

5. **New Article 60 bis**

Special procedure for the entry into force of Annex 11 and amendments thereto

1. *Annex 11, considered in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 59 shall come into force with respect to all Contracting Parties three months after the expiry of a period of twelve months following the date of communication by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Contracting Parties, except for those Contracting Parties that have notified the Secretary-General in writing, within that period of their non-acceptance of Annex 11. Annex 11 shall enter into force for Contracting Parties which withdraw their notification of non-acceptance six months after the date on which withdrawal of such notification has been received by the depositary.*

2. *Any proposed amendment to Annex 11 shall be considered by the Administrative Committee. Such amendments shall be adopted by a majority of the Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 present and voting.*

3. *Amendments to Annex 11 considered and adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article shall be communicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all Contracting Parties for information or, for those Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11, acceptance.*

4. *The date of entry into force of such amendments shall be determined at the time of their adoption, by a majority of the Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 present and voting.*

5. *Amendments shall enter into force in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article unless by a prior date determined at the time of adoption, one-fifth or five of the States which are Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11, whichever number is less, notify the Secretary-General of their objection to the amendments.*

6. *On entry into force, any amendment adopted in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraphs 2 to 5 of this Article shall for all Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 replace and supersede any previous provisions to which the amendment refers.*

6. **Article 61**

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all Contracting Parties and all States referred to in Article 52, paragraph 1 of this Convention of any request, communication, or objection under Articles 59 ~~and~~, 60 *and 60 bis* above and of the date on which any amendment enters into force.

B. Annex 11 – The eTIR procedure

1. Part I

Article 1

Scope of application

The provisions in this Annex govern the implementation of the eTIR procedure as defined in Article 1, paragraph (s) of the Convention and shall apply in the relations between Contracting Parties bound by this Annex, as provided for in Article 60 bis, paragraph 1.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Annex:

(a) The term “eTIR international system” shall mean the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) system devised to enable the exchange of electronic information between the actors involved in the eTIR procedure.

(b) The term "advance TIR data" shall mean the data provided to the competent authorities in the prescribed form and manner of the intention of the holder, or his or her representative, to place goods under the eTIR procedure or pursue a TIR transport.

(c) The term “declaration” shall mean the act whereby the holder, or his or her representative, indicates in the prescribed form and manner an intent to place goods under the eTIR procedure.

(d) The term “accompanying document” shall mean the paper document printed in line with the guidelines contained in the eTIR technical specifications and issued for the fallback procedure as set out in Article 9 of this Annex. The accompanying document shall also be used to record incidents en route pursuant to Article 25 of this Convention.

(e) The term “eTIR specifications” shall mean the conceptual, functional and technical specifications of the eTIR procedure adopted and amended in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Annex.

Article 3

Implementation of the eTIR procedure

1. Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 shall connect their customs systems to the eTIR international system in line with the conceptual, functional and technical specifications.

2. Each Contracting Party is free to establish by which date it connects its customs systems to the eTIR international system. The date of connection shall be communicated to all other Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 at least six months prior to the effective date of connection.

Article 4

Composition, functions and rules of procedure of the Technical Implementation Body

1. The Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 shall be members of the Technical Implementation Body. Its sessions shall be convened at regular intervals or at the request

of the Administrative Committee, as required for the maintenance of the eTIR specifications. The Administrative Committee shall be regularly informed of the activities and considerations of the Technical Implementation Body.

2. Contracting Parties which have not accepted Annex II as provided for in Article 60 bis, paragraph 1 and representatives of international organizations may attend sessions of the Technical Implementation Body as observers.

3. The Technical Implementation Body shall monitor the technical and functional aspects of implementing the eTIR procedure, as well as coordinate and foster the exchange of information on matters falling within its competence.

4. The Technical Implementation Body shall, at its first session, adopt its rules of procedure.

New Article 5

Adoption and amendment procedures for the eTIR specifications

1. The Technical Implementation Body shall adopt the technical specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, to ensure their alignment with the functional specifications of the eTIR procedure. At the time of adoption, it shall decide on the appropriate transitional period for their implementation.

2. The Technical Implementation Body shall prepare the functional specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, to ensure their alignment with the conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure. They shall be transmitted to the Administrative Committee for adoption by a majority of Contracting Parties bound by Annex II present and voting as well as implemented and, when required, developed into technical specifications at a date to be determined at the time of adoption.

3. The Technical Implementation Body shall consider amendments to the conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure if so requested by the Administrative Committee. The conceptual specifications of the eTIR procedure, and amendments thereto, shall be adopted by a majority of Contracting Parties bound by Annex II present and voting as well as implemented and, when required, developed into functional specification at a date to be determined at the time of adoption.

Article 6 (renumbered)

Submission of advance TIR data

1. Advance TIR data shall be submitted in electronic form.

2. Contracting Parties bound by Annex II shall accept the submission of advance TIR data via the eTIR international system.

3. The competent authorities shall publish the list of other electronic means by which advance TIR data can be submitted.

Article 7 (renumbered)

Authentication of the holder

1. The holder, or his or her representative, submitting advance TIR data directly to the competent authorities shall be authenticated in accordance with applicable national legislation.

2. Contracting Parties bound by Annex II shall recognize authentications performed by the eTIR international system.

3. *The competent authorities shall publish a list of authentication mechanisms other than that specified in paragraph 2 of the present Article that may be used for authentication.*

Article 8 (renumbered)

Mutual recognition of the authentication of the holder

The authentication of the holder performed by the competent authorities of the Contracting Party bound by Annex 11 which accepts the declaration shall be recognized by the competent authorities of all subsequent Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 throughout the TIR transport.

Article 9 (renumbered)

Additional data requirements

Competent authorities should limit data requirements to those contained in the functional and technical specifications. However, if additional data requirements are imposed by legislation, the competent authorities shall endeavour to facilitate the submission of such data so as not to impede TIR transports carried out in accordance with this Annex.

Article 10 (renumbered)

Fallback procedure

In the event that an eTIR procedure is impeded for technical reasons, the competent authorities:

- (a) shall accept the accompanying document and process it in line with the procedure described in the functional and technical specifications; or*
- (b) may obtain additional information from alternative electronic systems as described in the functional and technical specifications.*

Article 11 (renumbered)

Hosting of the eTIR international system

- 1. The eTIR international system shall be hosted and administered under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).*
- 2. UNECE shall assist countries in connecting their customs systems to the eTIR international system, including by means of conformance tests to ensure their proper functioning prior to the operational connection.*
- 3. The necessary resources shall be made available to UNECE to fulfil the obligations set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article. Unless the eTIR international system is financed by resources from the United Nations regular budget, the required resources shall be subject to the financial rules and regulations for extrabudgetary funds and projects of the United Nations. The financing mechanism for the operation of the eTIR international system at UNECE shall be decided on and approved by the Administrative Committee.*

Article 12 (renumbered)

Administration of the eTIR international system

- 1. UNECE shall make the appropriate arrangements for the storage and archiving of the data in the eTIR international system for a minimum period of 10 years.*

2. *All data stored in the eTIR international system may be used by UNECE on behalf of the competent bodies of this Convention for the purpose of extracting aggregated statistics.*

3. *The competent authorities of Contracting Parties involved in a TIR transport carried out under the eTIR procedure which becomes the subject of administrative or legal proceedings concerning the payment obligation of the person or persons directly liable or of the national guaranteeing association, may request UNECE to provide information stored in the eTIR international system pertaining to the claim in dispute for verification purposes. This information may be produced as evidence in national administrative or legal proceedings.*

4. *In cases other than those specified in this Article, the dissemination or disclosure of information stored in the eTIR international system to non-authorized persons or entities shall be prohibited.*

Article 13 (renumbered)

Publication of the customs offices capable of handling eTIR

The competent authorities shall ensure that the list of customs offices of departure, customs offices en route and customs offices of destination approved for accomplishing TIR operations under the eTIR procedure, is at all times accurate and updated in the electronic database for approved customs offices, developed and maintained by the TIR Executive Board.

Article 14 (renumbered)

Legal requirements for data submission under Annex 10 of the TIR Convention

The legal requirements for data submission, as set out in Annex 10, paragraph 1, 3 and 4 of this Convention, are deemed to be fulfilled by implementing the eTIR procedure.

2. Part II

Explanatory notes

Part I – Article 3, paragraph 2

Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 are recommended to have their national customs system updated and its connection with the eTIR international system ensured as soon as Annex 11 enters into force for them. Customs or economic unions may decide on a later date, allowing them time to connect the national customs systems of all their member States to the eTIR international system.

Part I - Article 5, paragraph 3

Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 are recommended to recognize, in as far as possible, the submission of advance TIR data by the methods indicated in the functional and technical specifications.

Part I - Article 6, paragraph 2

Contracting Parties bound by Annex 11 are recommended to recognize, in as far as possible, the authentications performed by the methods indicated in the functional and technical documentation.

Part I - Article 11, paragraph 3 (renumbered)

If necessary, Contracting Parties may decide to finance the operational costs of the eTIR international system through an amount per TIR transport. In such cases, Contracting Parties shall decide on the appropriate time to introduce alternative financing mechanisms and on their modalities. The required budget shall be prepared by UNECE, reviewed by the Technical Implementation Body and approved by the Administrative Committee.
