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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport
(11-15 October 2004)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-EIGHTH SESSION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.00 hours on Monday, 11 October 2004 ^{*/}

^{*/} 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 documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents may be obtained directly from the UNECE Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; e-mail: Poul.Hansen@unece.org). Documents may also be downloaded from the Internet web site of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://border.unece.org>). During the meeting, documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.111, 1st floor, Palais des Nations). Documents mentioned in bold in the documentation overview under each agenda item of this the agenda are newly issued documents.

The full text of the Conventions in English, French and Russian as well as complete lists of Contracting Parties to the Conventions referred to in this agenda are available on the UNECE web site: <http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html#customs>.

New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Internet Web site of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome.html>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the session, either by fax (+41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (Poul.Hansen@unece.org). Prior to the session, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE secretariat (internal extension 74030).

Monday 11 October 2004

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Activities of UNECE bodies and other United Nations organizations of interest to the Working Party
3. Activities of other organizations of interest to the Working Party
4. International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 1982 (“Harmonization Convention”)
 - (a) Status of the Convention
 - (b) Preparation of a new Annex on efficient border crossing procedures
 - (c) Preparation of a new Annex on security related issues
5. Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles (1954) and Commercial Road Vehicles (1956)
 - (a) Status of the Convention
 - (b) Application of the Convention
6. Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975)
 - (a) Status of the Convention
 - (b) Revision of the Convention
 - (i) Implementation of Phases I and II of the TIR revision process and examples of best practices
 - (ii) Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

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- (iii) Draft amendments on the inclusion and attribution of voting rights to Regional Economic Integration Organizations (REIO)
- (iv) Amendment proposals for the Convention
- (c) Application of the Convention
 - (i) Functions and roles of the TIRExB, the TIR secretariat and the IRU
 - (ii) Control system for TIR Carnets - IRU SafeTIR
 - (iii) Settlement of claims for payments

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- (iv) Issues relating to technical provisions
 - (v) CITES
 - (vi) TIR Handbook
 - (vii) Other matters
7. Prevention of the abuse of Customs transit systems by smugglers
 8. Programme of work for 2005 to 2009
 9. Other business
 - (a) Dates of the next sessions
 - (b) Restriction on the distribution of documents

Friday 15 October 2004

10. Adoption of the report

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1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/215.**

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda (TRANS/WP.30/215).

2. ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

The Working Party will be informed about the results of relevant sessions of the Inland Transport Committee, its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations bodies and organizations as they relate to matters of interest to the Working Party.

3. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST TO THE WORKING PARTY

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/2004/19; CEMT/CM (2004) 23; WCO Transit document.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about recent activities by the World Customs Organization (WCO), the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT), the European Commission (DG TAXUD) as well as by other governmental and non-governmental organizations as they relate to matters of interest to the Working Party.

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, took note of a survey undertaken by the ECMT on Removal of Obstacles at Border Crossing for International Goods Transport contained in document TRANS/WP.30/2004/19 (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 11). The Working Party may wish to comment further on the findings of the survey.

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, was informed by the WCO about a new publication with the title "A secure and efficient transit system" (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 10). The Working Party may wish to comment further on the contents of the publication.

4. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE HARMONIZATION OF FRONTIER CONTROLS OF GOODS, 1982 (“HARMONIZATION CONVENTION”)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/55 (<http://border.unece.org> - Legal Instruments); TRANS/WP.30/196; TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/10; TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/8; TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/2; TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/1; TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2003/1; TRANS/WP.30/2004/27; TRANS/WP.30/2004/22; TRANS/WP.30/2003/20; TRANS/WP.30/2002/19; TRANS/WP.30/2001/16; TRANS/WP.30/2000/16; TRANS/WP.30/2000/11; Informal documents No. 19 and 21 (2002).

(a) Status of the Convention

The Working Party will be informed of the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the Convention. A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention is available at the following web site: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48. Information about the status of the Convention can be obtained from the following website: <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty17.asp>.

(b) Preparation of a new Annex on efficient border crossing procedures

The Working Party may wish to recall that the Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-sixth session, finalized the new draft Annex 8 to the Convention addressing all elements important for efficient border crossing procedures in international road transport of goods and agreed on the final text to be transmitted by the secretariat, as soon as possible, to the Contracting Parties in preparation of the seventh session of the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/212, para. 14). The final draft text will be published by the secretariat in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/2.

The Working Party may wish to take note of document TRANS/WP.30/2004/27, transmitted by the European Commission, concerning inconsistencies in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/1. The Working Party may wish to consider this issue.

The Working Party may also wish to be informed about the preparedness of Contracting Parties to adopt the new draft Annex 8 to the Convention as contained in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/2¹.

¹ A number of Contracting Parties have informed the secretariat that they are not be in a position to adopt the new draft Annex 8 to the Convention in October 2004. Therefore, Contracting Parties are advised to take note that the seventh session of the Administrative Committee of the Harmonization Convention will not take place, as it had been previously announced, in conjunction with the present session of the Working Party, but will be postponed, for the time being, until February 2005.

(c) **Preparation of a new Annex on security related issues**

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, requested the secretariat to work closely with the WCO and requested the secretariat to prepare a document for one of its future sessions, containing a comparative analysis of the measures taken in the field of security controls at borders and, on that basis, to prepare a first new draft Annex to the Harmonization Convention concerning controls at borders linked to security (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 18).

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the progress in this field of activity.

5. CUSTOMS CONVENTIONS ON THE TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF PRIVATE ROAD VEHICLES (1954) AND COMMERCIAL ROAD VEHICLES (1956)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/107/Rev.1; ECE/TRANS/108; (<http://border.unece.org> - Legal Instruments).

(a) **Status of the Conventions**

The Working Party will be informed of the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private (1954) and Commercial (1956) Road Vehicles. A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention is available at the following web site: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48. Information about the status of the Convention can be obtained from the following websites: <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty8.asp>, <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapA/treaty10.asp>.

(b) **Application of the Conventions**

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it considered a number of questions concerning the application of the Conventions put forward by the AIT/FIA (TRANS/WP.30/2004/21). The Working Party was requested to provide interpretation on several of the questions as well as asking the secretariat to refer some of the questions to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (OLA) (TRANS/WP.30/214, paras. 20-28).

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the outcome of the request to OLA.

6. CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF GOODS UNDER COVER OF TIR CARNETS (TIR CONVENTION, 1975)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/17 and Amends.1-23; 2002 TIR Handbook (<http://tir.unece.org>); TRANS/WP.30/2004/28; TRANS/WP.30/212.

(a) Status of the Convention

The Working Party will be informed of the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975.

A complete list of Contracting Parties to the Convention, as well as a list of countries in which TIR operations can be undertaken, is annexed to the report of the thirty-fifth session of the TIR Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/71, annex 1) and can also be found on the following web site: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agreem_cp.html#48. Permanently updated information on the scope of the TIR Convention is available on the UNECE TIR web site: (<http://tir.unece.org>).

(b) Revision of the Convention

(i) Implementation of Phases I and II of the TIR revision process and examples of best practices

The Working Party may wish to be informed by Contracting Parties and the secretariat about the status of implementation at national level of the Convention and Phases I and II of the revision process. In this context, the Working Party may wish to take note of document TRANS/WP.30/2004/28, prepared by the secretariat, providing an overview of the implementation of the of the TIR Convention at national level, including Phases I and II of the TIR revision process, based on information received by the secretariat from Contracting Parties.

(ii) Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/212; TRANS/WP.30/210; TRANS/WP.30/208; TRANS/WP.30/206; TRANS/WP.30/204; TRANS/WP.30/202; TRANS/WP.30/200; TRANS/WP.30/198; TRANS/WP.30/196; TRANS/WP.30/194; TRANS/WP.30/192; **TRANS/WP.30/2004/31; TRANS/WP.30/2004/30; TRANS/WP.30/2004/29; ExG/COMP/2004/18.**

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its ninety-sixth session, it had decided to start work on Phase III of the TIR revision process, which would include a study of the following elements (TRANS/WP.30/192, para. 33):

- Revision of the TIR Carnet, including the insertion of additional data elements (ID number, HS code, value of goods, etc.);
- Increase in the number of places for loading and unloading under Customs seal;
- Use of new technologies in TIR operations also with a view to reducing the delay in notification of non-discharge.

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session decided to revert to the question of increase in the number of places for loading and unloading under Customs seal at its session in February 2005.

- Revision of the TIR Carnet

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it noted that the WCO was in the process of considering a data set for transit and that the Working Party requested the secretariat to be involved in this process with a view to considering to align the TIR data requirements with the future WCO requirements (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 34). The Working Party may wish to be informed about any new developments in this field.

The Working Party may also wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it decided that the time was ripe for incorporation of the provisions of the recommendation for the use of the ID-number of the authorized holder in the body of the Convention and requested the secretariat to prepare a proposal to this end for its forthcoming session (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 34). The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/29, prepared by the secretariat, containing a proposal in this respect.

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, also felt that it would be useful to recommend to include the HS-code in the goods description and requested the secretariat to prepare a proposal for a Recommendation for inclusion of the HS-code in the goods description in the TIR Carnet for the next session of the Working Party (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 34). The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/30, prepared by the secretariat, containing a proposal in this respect.

- Use of new technologies

The Working Party may wish to be informed of the outcome of the meeting of the fifth session of the Expert Group, which took place on 28 and 29 June 2004. The report of the meeting is contained in document ExG/COMP/2004/18. The Working Party may also wish to take note of document TRANS/WP.30/2004/31, prepared by the secretariat, containing an overview of the status of the computerization process.

(iii) Draft amendments on the inclusion and attribution of voting rights to Regional Economic Integration Organizations (REIO)

The Working Party may wish to be informed of any progress considering the proposals transmitted by the European Community concerning inclusion and attribution of voting rights to Regional Economic Integration Organizations (REIO) and the bilateral discussions in this context with the United States of America and Turkey respectively.

(iv) Amendment proposals for the Convention

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/2004/33; TRANS/WP.30/2004/25; TRANS/WP.30/2004/24;**
TRANS/WP.30/2004/14; TRANS/WP.30/2004/11; TRANS/WP.30/2003/22;
TRANS/WP.30/2003/11; TRANS/WP.30/2003/10; TRANS/WP.30/2002/30;
TRANS/WP.30/R.179; Informal document No. 2 (2004).

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it mandated the secretariat to convene an ad hoc expert group with a view to dealing with all amendment proposals that had been transmitted by Contracting Parties as well as, possibly, other proposals for amendments of the Convention, in particular in relation to the guarantee system. The ad hoc expert group has been convened for 30 and 31 August 2004 in Geneva. The agenda for the meeting is contained in document TRANS/WP.30/2004/24. In addition, the secretariat has prepared document TRANS/WP.30/2004/25 containing the secretariat's preliminary comments to the amendment proposals transmitted by Contracting Parties.

The Working Party may wish to be informed about the outcome of the meeting. The report of the meeting will be contained in document TRANS/WP.30/2004/32. In this context the Working Party may in particular wish to be informed about the possible organization of a TIR Contact Group during the autumn of 2004.

The Working Party may also wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it considered in detail the question of amending Article 6.2 bis of the Convention, as proposed by the European Community and the Russian Federation, by adding a new Explanatory Note. The Working Party decided to consider the question again at its present session in October 2004 based on the following three proposals that were considered during the present session and it requested the secretariat to prepare an official document for the forthcoming session containing these proposals.

The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/33, prepared by the secretariat, containing three proposals for amending Article 6.2 bis of the Convention.

(c) **Application of the Convention**

(i) **Functions and roles of the TIRExB, the TIR secretariat and the IRU**

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/2004/34**; TRANS/WP.30/2004/16; Informal document No. 3 (2004).

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it considered document TRANS/WP.30/2004/15, prepared by the secretariat, containing the elements to be included into point 1.9 of the introduction of the TIR Handbook concerning the roles and responsibilities of the national guaranteeing associations, the international organization, the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat. The Working Party had a number of amendments of both a linguistic nature and more substantial nature and requested the secretariat to prepare a revised version for the present session (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 44).

The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/34, prepared by the secretariat, containing a revised proposal of chapter 1.9 of the TIR Handbook.

(ii) **Control system for TIR Carnets - IRU SafeTIR**

The Working Party may wish to be informed by the IRU about any development concerning the issue.

(iii) Settlement of claims for payments

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/214; TRANS/WP.30/2004/17.

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it had expressed great concern about the situation concerning the decision of the Court of Arbitration and the impact on outstanding claims relating to the period before 1995, and urged that a solution be found quickly to the satisfaction of the Contracting Parties (TRANS/WP.30/214, paras. 48-51).

The Working Party may wish to receive further information in this respect and may also wish to be informed by Customs authorities and the IRU of the present situation with regard to the settlement of claims for payments made by Customs authorities against national guaranteeing associations.

(iv) Issues relating to technical provisions

Documentation: **TRANS/WP.30/2004/36; TRANS/WP.30/2004/35; TRANS/WP.30/2004/26;**
TRANS/WP.30/2004/23; TRANS/WP.30/2004/15; TRANS/WP.30/2004/18;
TRANS/WP.30/2004/7; TRANS/WP.30/2004/4; TRANS/WP.30/2003/13;
TRANS/WP.30/2002/27; Informal document No. 1 (2004).

The Working Party may wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it considered document TRANS/WP.30/2004/15 and Informal document No. 1 (2004), prepared by the secretariat, containing draft proposals for amending the provisions of the Convention relating to the use of cables to allow for the use of fibre optic cables. The Working Party agreed, in principle, with the proposal with some minor modifications, and requested the secretariat to prepare an official document with the modified proposal for the present session and, in parallel, to prepare a document with the proposal for the TIR Administrative Committee for possible adoption in October 2004 (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 52.)

The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/26, prepared by the secretariat, containing a revised proposal for the introduction of the fibre-optic cable.

The Working Party may also wish to recall that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it considered document TRANS/WP.30/2004/18, submitted by the World Customs Organization, containing new guidelines to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs procedures (Kyoto Convention), chapter 6 on seals. The secretariat was requested to prepare a document on the issue (TRANS/WP.30/21, para 53).

The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/35, prepared by the secretariat, containing a proposal for a comment to Article 22 of the Convention concerning seal standards.

The Working Party may wish to recall, that, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, it took note of document TRANS/WP.30/2004/23, submitted by the Government of the United States, containing proposals for new comments to Annexes 2 and 7 of the Convention concerning the specific placement of mechanical seals. Parallel proposals will be considered in the context of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972, the technical annexes of which are parallel to Annex 7 of the TIR Convention (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 54). Bearing in mind the need to align the developments of the TIR Convention and the Customs Convention on Containers, the Working Party requested the UNECE and the WCO secretariats to work closely together concerning this issue. The Working Party considered that the proposed amendments needed further refinement and requested the secretariat to prepare a new document for its present session.

The Working Party may wish to consider document TRANS/WP.30/2004/36, prepared jointly by the UNECE and the WCO secretariat, containing a proposal for the placement of mechanical seals.

(v) CITES

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/2004/20.

The Working Party, at its one-hundred-and-seventh session, considered a revised proposal transmitted by the European Community (TRANS/WP.30/2004/20), concerning the inclusion of provisions in the TIR Convention about endangered species (The Washington Convention 1973, CITES) and decided to revert to the question at its present session (TRANS/WP.30/214, paras. 57 and 58).

The Working Party may wish to reconsider the proposal, in particular, the second phrase.

(vi) TIR Handbook

Documentation: UNECE document (<http://tir.unece.org>).

The TIR Handbook contains the text of the Convention and its annexes, including the amendments to the Convention, at present including the amendments adopted under Phase II of the TIR revision process, as well as all relevant comments adopted by the Working Party, the Administrative Committee and the TIRExB. The updated TIR Handbook in English, French and Russian can be viewed and downloaded from the UNECE TIR web site in these languages (<http://tir.unece.org>). Updated hard-copy versions of the TIR Handbook are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian and Russian. A limited number of such copies may be obtained free of charge from the secretariat.

(vii) Other matters

The Working Party may wish to consider any other issues and difficulties in the application of the Convention faced by Customs authorities, national associations, the international insurers or the IRU.

7. PREVENTION OF THE ABUSE OF CUSTOMS TRANSIT SYSTEMS BY SMUGGLERS

Documentation: TRANS/WP.30/127.

Having discussed at earlier sessions a number of drug seizures involving TIR vehicles, the Working Party felt that it should be informed of any special devices and facilities used by smugglers abusing the TIR transit system. The Working Party invited all Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975, and the World Customs Organization (WCO) to transmit all relevant information on such cases so that it could take the necessary steps, falling within its competence and mandate, to prevent such occurrences (TRANS/WP.30/127, paras. 55-57).

As in the past, the Working Party may wish to exchange views and report on experiences on this subject, if any, on a confidential basis.

8. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2005 TO 2009

Documentation: TRANS/2004/19 and 18.

The Working Party may wish to consider its programme of work covering the years 2005 to 2009. On the basis of its present programme of work (2004-2008) as reproduced in the annex to this agenda, and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Inland Transport Committee and the Commission, the Working Party may wish to review its future activities taking into account that (a) the output to be expected within the next two years (or earlier) of each work element should be indicated, (b) work elements with a permanent character and those to be executed within a limited time period should be listed separately and (c) the programme of work should be streamlined as much as possible and the broad objectives and the measures to be carried out should be clearly stated. In this context, the Working Party may also wish to take into consideration documents TRANS/2004/18 and 19, prepared for the Inland Transport Committee, containing the strategic objectives adopted by the Committee.

Furthermore, the Working Party may wish to consider the issue raised by the Turkish delegation during its one-hundred-and-seventh session, as to whether the Working Party is working in the most efficient way and if the present number of days available for sessions is necessary, bearing in mind the apparent increasing trend to transfer more and more of the substantive work of the Working Party to specially established sub-groups (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 43).

9. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Dates of the next sessions

The Working Party may wish to decide on the dates for its next sessions.

The secretariat has already scheduled the one-hundred-and-ninth session of the Working Party to be held in the week from 31 January to 4 February 2005 in conjunction with the thirty-eighth session of the TIR Administrative Committee and the seventh session of the Administrative Committee for the "Harmonization" Convention.

The one-hundred-and-tenth session of the Working Party is tentatively scheduled to be held during the week of 13 to 17 June 2005.

(b) **Restriction on the distribution of documents**

The Working Party should decide whether there shall be any restrictions with respect to the distribution of documents issued in connection with its current session.

10. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the report on its one-hundred-and-seventh session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. Given the present resource restrictions with regard to translation facilities, parts of the final report may not be available at the session for adoption in all working languages.

Annex

Programme of work for the years 2004-2008²

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 02.10: CUSTOMS QUESTIONS AFFECTING TRANSPORT

Harmonization and simplification of requirements for border crossing procedures concerning modes of inland transport Priority: 1

Description:

- (a) Preparation, review, implementation and, where appropriate, modification of international legal instruments.
- (b) Simplification of administrative formalities, documents and procedures.

Work to be undertaken: The Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport will pursue the following activities:

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

- (a) Study of specific legal and other measures to combat fiscal fraud resulting from simplified Customs and other border crossing procedures, such as the TIR regime, including periodic review of the status of implementation of resolution No. 220 (prevention of the abuse of Customs transit systems by drug smugglers). Setting-up of mechanisms and administrative procedures for the regular exchange of information with other Governmental and non-governmental organizations to combat such fraud. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2004:

Preparation of adequate instruments and measures to improve international cooperation among Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975 and concerned national and international organizations to prevent fraud.

Activities towards implementation of the Recommendation adopted by the TIR Administrative Committee on 20 October 1995 on an international EDI control system for TIR Carnets.

² Text in bold characters indicates newly proposed text; text in square brackets ([...]) refers to text proposed for deletion.

Exchange of intelligence among Customs authorities of Contracting Parties to relevant UNECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation on abuses with a view to identifying measures to combat such occurrences.

- (b) Study of the possible extension of relevant UNECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation to other regions, particularly relating to legal and administrative aspects.

Priority: 3

Output expected in 2004:

Preparation of regional and/or national workshops, possibly in cooperation with UNESCAP and UNESCWA, on the implementation of relevant UNECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation in Asia and the Middle East.

- (c) Periodic review of relevant UNECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation in order to ensure their coherence with other international or sub-regional treaties and to keep them in line with modern transport and border control requirements.

Priority: 2

Output expected in 2004:

Analysis of the application of the following UNECE Conventions on border crossing facilitation: TIR Convention 1975; Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private (1954) and Commercial (1956) Road Vehicles; Customs Convention Concerning Spare Parts Used for the Repair of EUROPE Wagons; and Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers Used in International Transport.

- (d) Study to facilitate formalities for container pools in international transport and follow-up activities within the framework of the Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers Used in International Transport.

Priority: 2

Output expected in 2004:

Preparation and negotiation of two model container pool agreements providing guidance to the transport industry and the Contracting Parties on the implementation of the provisions of the "Customs Container Pool Convention" covering international rail and international maritime transport.

- (e) Analysis of difficulties encountered relating to border crossing formalities with a view to devising administrative procedures eliminating such difficulties. The analysis will cover health, phytosanitary, veterinary and quality controls, application of standards, public safety controls, etc., including the promotion of the implementation and extension of the scope of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods of 1982 (Harmonization Convention). Priority: 1

Output expected in 2004:

Study of the possibilities to prepare and negotiate a new annex to the "Harmonization Convention" on road transport, including possibly an international lorry weight certificate, in close cooperation with the Working Party on Road Transport.

Study of concrete measures facilitating border crossing procedures for railway transport in cooperation with the Working Party on Rail Transport.

- (f) Study of Customs questions with a view to simplification of Customs formalities and documents in the field of transport, in particular taking account of the possibility of electronic data interchange solutions, including UN/EDIFACT messages. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2004:

Analysis of the impact on the TIR regime of the New Customs Transit System (NCTS) to be applied in the countries of the Common Transit System (European Community, EFTA and Visegrad countries) and coordination of work with the relevant bodies within the European Community on this subject.

ACTIVITIES OF A LIMITED DURATION

- (g) Revision of the TIR Convention, 1975 with a view to stabilizing the TIR Customs transit procedure. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2004:

Continuation of work on phase III of the TIR revision procedure, focusing on the revision of the TIR Carnet and on provisions for a modernized, possibly EDI-based Customs administration and control system.

- (h) Study to facilitate railway transit traffic on the basis of the CIM and the SMGS Consignment Notes, including the preparation of a new Customs transit regime allowing the use of the CIM and the SMGS consignment notes as a Customs document. Priority: 2

Output expected in 2004:

Preparation of a draft Customs transit convention covering international rail transport in all COTIF and SMGS member States.



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Date

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Title of the Conference

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30)

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency

Participant

Family Name

First Name

Mr.

Mrs.

Ms.

Date of Birth

(DD/MM/YYYY)

Participation Category

Head of Delegation

Members

Delegation Member

Observer Country

Observer Organisation

NGO (ECOSOC Accred.)

Other (Please specify below)

Participating From / Until

From

11 October 2004

Until

15 October 2004

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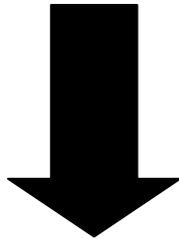
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