

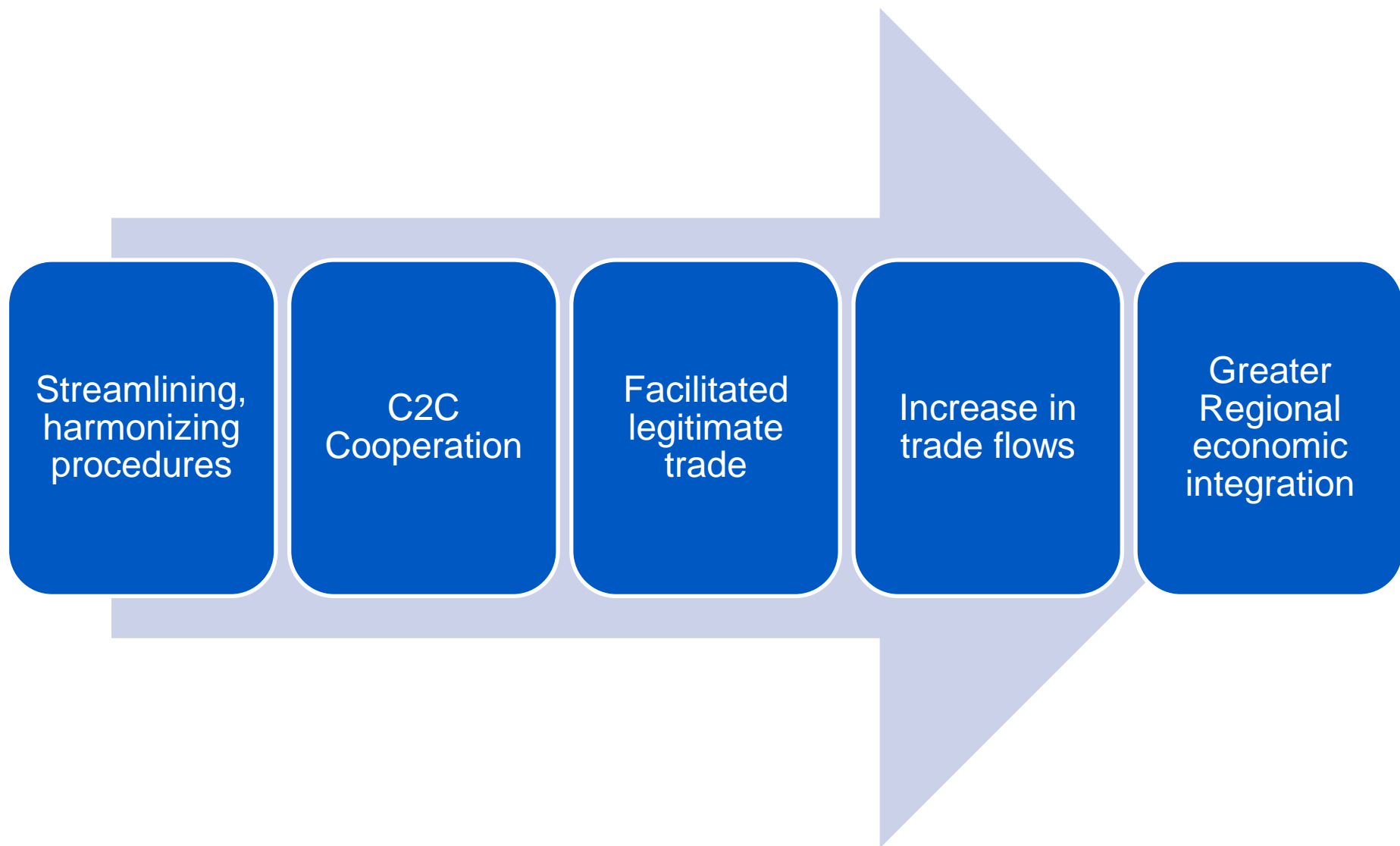
# The Role of the harmonization of customs procedures in trade facilitation and regional integration

Casablanca, 2 December 2015

*Habib TURKI*

*Project Coordinator for Africa and the Middle East*

# **IRU** Why trade facilitation matters ?



# Does trade facilitation matter even more in North Africa?

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- Trade transaction costs are highest in developing economies
- Developing economies least able to afford these costs
- Attracting investment and developing trade is critical to economic growth

# **IRU** Why Harmonize Procedures/documents?

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OECD estimated that up to 7% of the total value of international trade is absorbed by the cost of documentation alone

- It reduces the costs of trading internationally
- It facilitates C2C cooperation
- Key Trade facilitation measure

# **IRU** Why Trade Facilitation and why harmonize ?

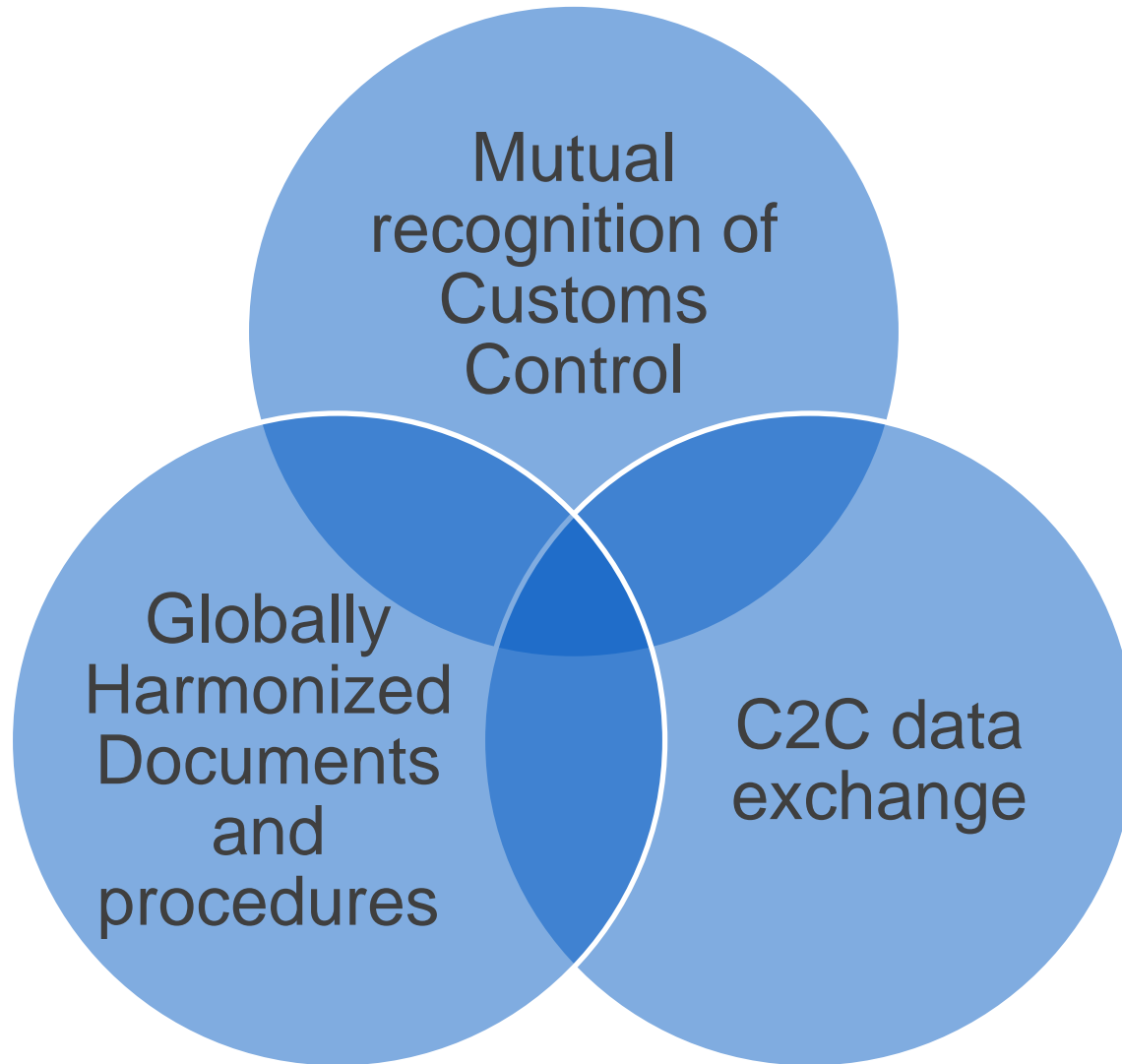
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Any instrument that provides a framework for reducing the costs associated with trading internationally is important

Reducing the costs of trade is important...

But **predictability and consistency** is equally important –  
“just in time” logistics

A global agreement like the TFA is particularly beneficial –  
it facilitates trade not just at bilateral and regional levels,  
but with virtually all your trading partners

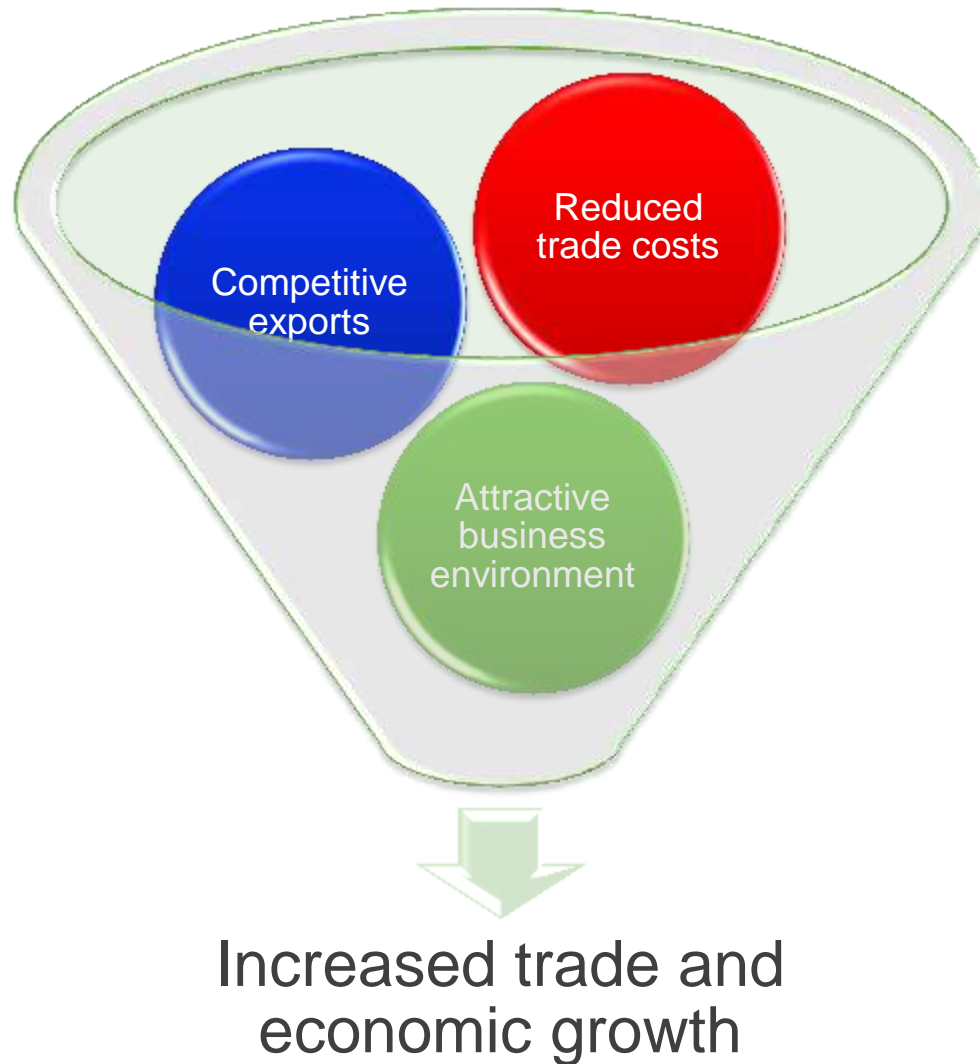


Simplification  
&  
Harmonization

Reduced  
waiting time

Reduced  
Opportunities  
for Corruption

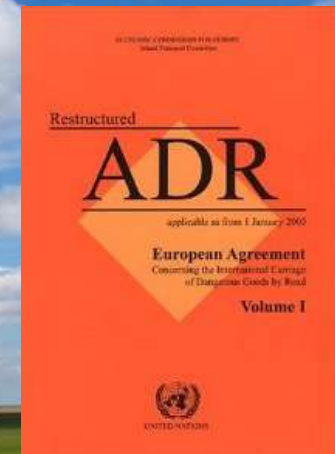
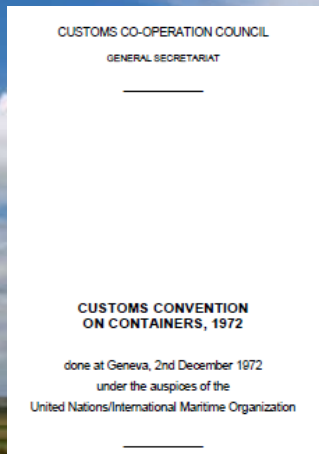
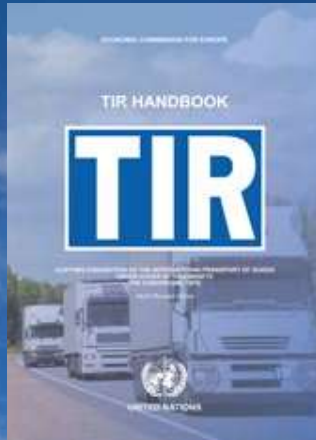
Government  
Business  
Cooperation







# Key UN transport and transit facilitation instruments allow the goods to cross borders smoothly!



# Border Crossing Facilitation

TIR Convention, 1975

Harmonisation Convention, 1982

Temporary Importation of Private/Commercial Road Vehicles, 1954/1956

Customs Convention on Containers of 1972

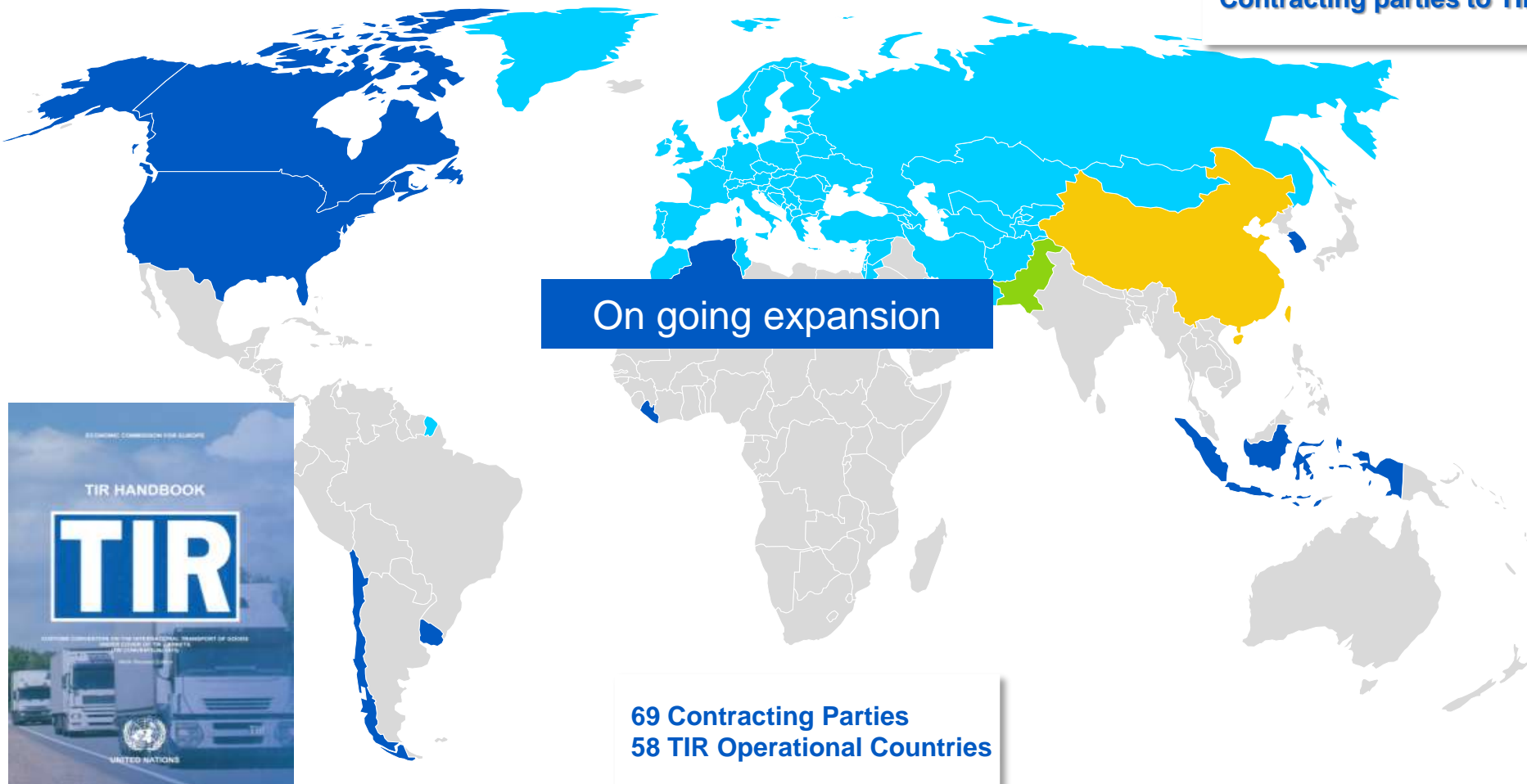
Customs Convention on the ATA carnet for the temporary admission of goods (ATA Convention) of 1961 and Istanbul Convention of 1990

## TIR

**TIR is a customs transit and guarantee system which uses one simple procedure, applied globally, for door-to-door transport by road, sea, rail and in the future by air**



8 Arab countries are Contracting parties to TIR



- Contracting parties to the TIR Convention
- TIR operational countries
- TIR implementation countries

■ TIR accession countries

## Objective:

Facilitate cross border transport of goods through harmonization and reduction of administrative formalities, and reducing the number and duration of border controls

## 57 Contracting Parties



adapted from image © RIA Novosti, Ulyy Progov

## Benefits:

- Coordinate Controls of Customs and other control services,
- Provide sufficient resources to the controlling services (equipment, personnel, instructions)
- Cooperate with adjacent countries (joint controls, opening hours,..)
- Facilitate the treatment of goods in Transit

➔ Reduction of border delays and transport costs



# Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of: Private Road Vehicles, of 1954 Commercial Road Vehicles, of 1956



## Objective:

Facilitate temporary admission of vehicles registered in another country

## Benefits

- Allowing temporary importation of vehicles by non-residents
- Creation of a single international customs document (Carnet de Passage en Douane)

## Contracting Parties to:

PRV of 1954: **80**

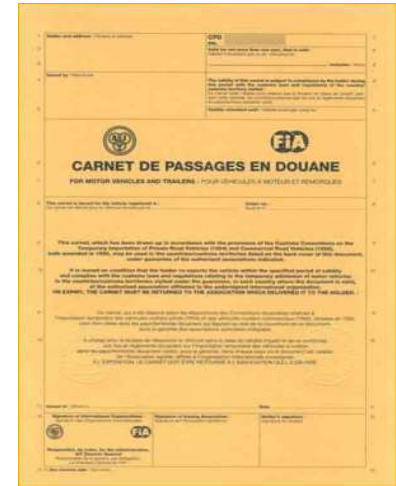


# Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of: Private Road Vehicles (1954) Commercial Road Vehicles (1956)



## The Carnet de Passage en Douane (CPD)

- A customs document that identifies a motor vehicle and is used to control its temporarily importation and subsequent exportation
- Allows travellers to temporarily import their vehicles without having to leave a cash deposit at the border.
- The Carnet is in essence an international guarantee for payment of customs duties and taxes to a government should a vehicle not be re-exported from that country.
- AIT and FIA guarantee and issue the CPD's .





## Objectives

- To facilitate the temporary admission in a country of containers registered in another country by suspending payment of taxes and duties
- To define construction technical standards in order to ensure secure transport under Customs seals
- To define and organise the approval procedures for containers authorised for transport of goods under Customs seals



## Benefits

Mutual recognition of approval certificates

Facilitated temporary import

Payment Exemption of Customs import taxes and duties for containers

Easy and Unique identification of containers

Identification of owners

Secure load compartment and Tracability in case of infringement

Facilitated trade and international transport of goods (no intrusion into the sealed container)

**39 Contracting Parties**



## Objectives

- free movement of goods across frontiers and their temporary admission into a Customs territory with relief from duties and taxes

## Benefits

- considerable simplification of Customs formalities
- No import duties or taxes are collected for the temporary importation of goods covered by the system
- The goods are covered by a single document known as the ATA carnet that is secured by an international guarantee system
- national associations which issue ATA Carnets are approved by Customs and affiliated to an international guaranteeing chain administered by the International Bureau of Chambers of Commerce (IBCC).

## 63 Contracting parties



The image shows a sample of an ATA Carnet form, titled "ATA CARNET/ATA FOR TEMPORARY ADMISSION OF GOODS". The form is divided into several sections:

- SECTION I: COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** (Country of origin)
- SECTION II: COUNTRY OF DESTINATION** (Country of destination)
- SECTION III: NUMBER OF GOODS** (Number of goods)
- SECTION IV: VALUE OF GOODS** (Value of goods)
- SECTION V: CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS** (Classification of goods)
- SECTION VI: ISSUING ASSOCIATION** (Issuing association)
- SECTION VII: GUARANTEE** (Guarantee)
- SECTION VIII: SIGNATURES** (Signatures)

The form includes fields for the holder's name, address, and contact information, as well as a section for the issuing association's details. It also features a large area for the holder's signature and the issuing association's stamp.

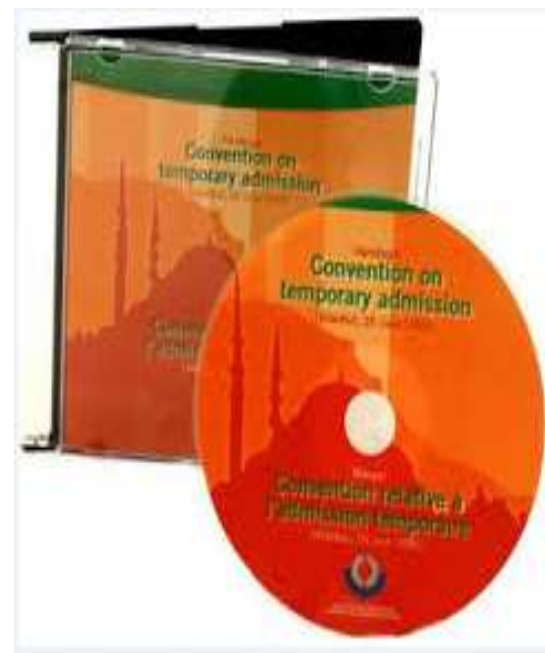
## Objectives

➤ To devise a single instrument for the simplification and harmonization of temporary admission formalities, replacing all the existing Conventions or Recommendations dealing solely or principally with temporary admission.

## Benefits

- combined into a single international instrument, 13 existing temporary admission agreements.
- The ATA system is an integral part of Istanbul Convention.

**61 Contracting parties**



# Dangerous Goods and Special Cargoes

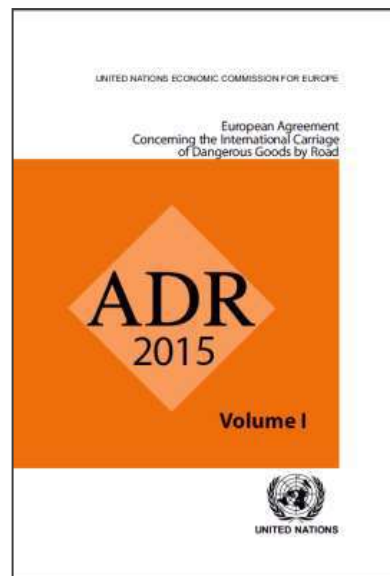
Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), 1957

Perishable Foodstuffs (ATP), 1970

## Objective:

to ensure the highest possible level of safety for transport of dangerous goods by road

**48 Contracting parties**



## benefits:

- International standards and identification
- Harmonized training for drivers and staff
- Prevention of accidents:

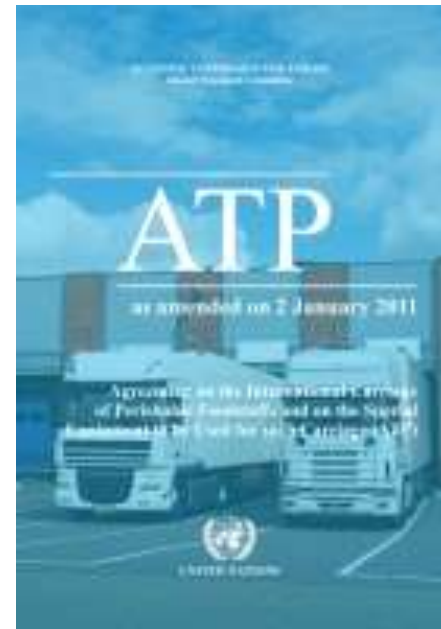
through conditions specific to the drivers (Training), goods (packing, labeling, classification), and vehicles (construction, equipment and operation)



## Objective

Improve conditions of preservation of quality of perishable foodstuffs during carriage, particularly in international trade and promote the expansion of trade in perishable foodstuffs.

## 49 Contracting Parties





**Benefits:**

Harmonised standards for refrigerating equipments

Facilitated border procedure for perishable foodstuff and live animals

Preserved quality of goods during transport and prevention of disease proliferation

Regular inspection of vehicles and mutual recognition of ATP certificates of compliance issued by the competent authorities of other Contracting Parties

ATP applies even if the state where the goods are loaded is not a Contracting Party.

Some Contracting Parties also use ATP for domestic transport



# Other Legal Instruments Related to Road Transport

Contract Road Goods Transport (CMR), 1956

## Objective:

Standardize the conditions governing the contract for the international carriage of goods by road, particularly with respect to:

- Documents used for such carriage
- Carrier's liability

## 55 Contracting Parties



