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**TRANS EUROPEAN RAILWAY (TER)  
PROJECT CENTRAL OFFICE**

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**TER Working Party on Economic, Financial and  
Management Matters (WP2)**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Economic, Financial and Management Matters (WP2) took place on 19-21 June, 2002 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Representatives of 9 TER member countries and UNECE attended the meeting.

The participants to the meeting debated the major issues of the agenda: Report on the Workshop on Railway Reform in Central and Eastern Europe, developments in the railway companies in line with market oriented management, obstacles and deficiencies in international combined transport in the TER region, promotion of the new image of the railway stations and their integration in the town planning developments, improvement of management of the real estates belonging to the railways, operation of Management Information System (MIS) in the railway companies, Railway Safety measures adopted in the TER countries, Quality in Rail Transport, preparation of the joint Conference UNECE/TER – UIC – CER on integration of railways, efficiency and profitability of the railways, etc.

The representatives of TER countries provided information on the process for implementing the existing law on railway reforms or adoption on new laws in this field, on the major obstacles and deficiencies in developing the international railway and combined transport in their countries, on new measures foreseen to be taken in order to increase railway profitability.

Among new issues debated were: the new image of the railway stations, the management of the railway real estate, railway safety measures applicable in the TER countries and the need for increasing the quality of railway services.

The participants took part in a broad exchange of views on the above subjects emphasising the need for a new concept and new approach to all the issues which could improve the quality of railway services as well as the attraction of railways to the customers vis-a-vis other modes of transport.

The next Session of WP2 will take place in 2003.