



**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
FOR THE TIR CONVENTION, 1975**

TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)

(Fortieth session, 15 and 16 June 2009,
agenda item 3)

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2009 AND 2010

Note by the secretariat

A. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirty-ninth session, the TIRExB reviewed the programme of work of the 2007-2008 TIRExB and agreed that, in view of the continuity of the main activities emanating from the Board's Terms of Reference, it formed a good basis for the Board's programme of work for the years 2009-2010. Thus, it requested the secretariat to submit an updated draft for discussion and finalization at the present session. In particular, the Board requested the secretariat to rephrase item 5 to better reflect the Board's role in the computerization process, to amend item 6 with a reference to training on technical issues such as the approval of vehicles and the possibility to organize a technical training seminar and to add a new item on self-evaluation to the programme of work (TIRExB/REP/2009/39draft, paras 9).

2. Taking account of the above instructions, the secretariat has prepared this document which, in Annex, contains an updated draft of the Board's programme of work for the years 2009 and 2010 for discussion and, possibly, adoption by the Board.

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Annex

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIREXB) FOR THE YEARS 2009 AND 2010

1. Introduction

With a view to improving transparency among the TIR bodies, at the beginning of each two-year period of its mandate the TIRExB develops a prioritised work programme and presents it to the TIR Administrative Committee (AC.2) for endorsement. The Chairman periodically reports to AC.2 on its activities and the results achieved within the work programme.

The programme below is not exhaustive, the TIRExB is sufficiently flexible to enable itself to consider any unforeseen issue that might arise. Furthermore, it does not include some ongoing activities carried out by the TIR secretariat, which do not require the direct involvement of the Board (e.g. maintenance of the ITDB, etc

2. Overall aims

1. Supervision of and support in the application of the TIR Convention at the national and international levels (Article 1bis of Annex 8 to the Convention).

A. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

1. To study specific measures (both legal and practical) to combat fraud resulting from the misuse of the TIR procedure. *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Identification of possible weaknesses in the legal basis of the TIR Convention which could make it prone to fraud.
- ~~Monitoring and promotion of the use of the so-called Fraud Report Form (FRF) as a mechanism aimed at the early identification of fraud in order to define the appropriate responses to prevent and combat such fraud¹.~~

¹ Changes in comparison to the 2007-2008 programme of work are in ~~strikethrough~~ and ***bold italics underlined***

- 2. To facilitate the exchange of information between competent authorities of Contracting Parties, national guaranteeing associations, IRU and other Governmental and non-governmental organizations. To co-ordinate and foster the exchange of intelligence and other information among competent authorities of Contracting Parties.** *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Elaborate adequate instruments and find measures to improve international co-operation among Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention and their national associations, and the international organization in order to prevent and combat fraud.
- Taking into account the views of other international governmental and non-governmental bodies, and in consultation with the IRU, develop and disseminate guidelines concerning the use of risk analysis, and the identification of fraud prevention measures.
- On the basis of information provided by the TIR international guarantee chain, study the situation with regard to the new trends of fraud, the notifications of non-discharge and TIR infringements as a contribution to an "early-warning system" for identification and prevention of fraud.

- 3. To supervise the national Customs control measures introduced in the framework of the TIR Convention.** *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Identify national Customs control measures introduced in Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention and check their conformity with the provisions of the TIR Convention.
- Address the respective national authorities in order to modify or abolish measures which are in contradiction to the TIR Convention.

- 4. To supervise the functioning of the TIR international guarantee system.** *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Monitor constantly the settlement of Customs claims, on the basis of information provided by national Customs authorities and the IRU.

- 5. To contribute to the computerization of the TIR procedure.** *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Encourage ***IT experts***~~TIRExB members~~ to participate, as national representatives, in the activities undertaken by the Ad hoc Expert Group ***on Technical and Conceptual Aspects*** of the computerization of the TIR procedure.

- With the consent of the TIR Administrative Committee, offer good offices to the ad-hoc expert groups on general Customs policy issues.
- Promote the ITDB as one of future e-TIR components.
- Monitor and further enhance on-line use of the ITDB, taking into account the need to ensure an adequate level of protection against unauthorized access.

6. To support training activities on the application of the TIR Convention, mainly in Contracting Parties where difficulties are experienced or might be expected in this area. *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Organize, possibly in co-operation with the IRU, and substantially contribute to regional and national workshops and seminars on the application of the TIR Convention, *where possible with particular focus on technical issues such as the approval of vehicles.*
- Update and distribute the TIR Handbook in the official UN languages.
- Prepare and distribute, also via Internet, training material on the application of the TIR Convention.

7. To facilitate the settlement of disputes between Contracting Parties, associations, insurance companies and international organizations without prejudice to Article 57. *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Analyze and monitor disputes referred to the Board and make recommendations (if necessary) to facilitate their settlement.
- Clarify procedures prior to a suspension of the guarantee on the territory of a Contracting Party

8. To monitor the application of the EDI control system for TIR Carnets. *Priority: 2*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Continue activities, in co-operation with IRU, towards the full implementation of an international EDI control system for TIR Carnets, as foreseen by Annex 10 to the TIR Convention.
- Monitor performance and give feedback to the Contracting Parties.
- Study how the EDI control system for TIR Carnets is being used by the national issuing associations for the purposes of fraud prevention.

- 9. To supervise the centralized printing and distribution of the TIR Carnets, including the monitoring of the price of TIR Carnets.** *Priority: 2*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- Monitor the annual numbers of TIR Carnets distributed to various Contracting Parties, broken down by type (i.e., 4-, 6-, 14- or 20-voucher TIR Carnets).
- Monitor the price of TIR Carnets at international level (i.e., ex-IRU price) on the basis of information to be reported by IRU annually or when modified.
- Study all the relevant issues concerning the price of TIR Carnets at the "ex-national association" level.
- Approve any proposed modifications to the TIR Carnet layout in advance of its introduction and distribution.

- 10. To maintain the central record for dissemination to Contracting Parties of information on all rules and procedures prescribed for the issue of TIR Carnets by associations, as far as they relate to the minimum conditions and requirements laid down in Annex 9.** *Priority: 1*

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- ~~– Study information provided by IRU, identifying the common rules and procedures prescribed for the issue of TIR Carnets by associations.~~ **No specific output envisaged.**

- 11. To provide support on the application of specific provisions of the TIR Convention.**

Priority: 1

Output expected in 2009 and 2010:

- On request, draft recommendations and/or examples of best practice on the application of specific provisions of the TIR Convention.

B. ACTIVITIES OF A LIMITED DURATION

- 1. Preparation of best practices on the application of Annex 10 of the TIR Convention.**

Priority: 1

Output expected in 2009:

- Draft an example of best practice on the application of Annex 10 and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for adoption.

2. Preparation of best practices clarifying how Customs authorities should process a TIR Carnet in case of refusal Priority: 1

Output expected in 2009:

- Prepare an example of best practices clarifying how Customs authorities should process a TIR Carnet in case of refusal and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for adoption.

3. Preparation of best practices on the procedure prior to suspension of the guarantee on the territory of a Contracting Party. Priority: 1

Output expected in 2009:

- Prepare an example of best practices on the procedure prior to suspension of the guarantee on the territory of a Contracting Party and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for adoption.

4. Self-evaluation

Output expected in 2010

Priority: 1

- Prepare a report, providing a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the Board's achievements during its 2009-2010 term of office in relation to its mandates according to TIR Convention and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for endorsement.
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