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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

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Item 3 (a) (ii) of the provisional agenda

**ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIREXB)**

Activities of the TIRExB

TIRExB's programme of work 2007-2008

Note by the secretariat

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. 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 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.

2. The programme below is not exhaustive, the TIRExB is sufficiently flexible to enable itself to consider any unforeseen issue that might arise. In particular, the Board treats requests by Contracting Parties as a matter of priority. Furthermore, the programme 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).

## II. OVERALL AIMS

3. 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.**

##### Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- 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 fraud.

#### 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.**

##### Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- 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.**

##### Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- 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.**

Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- 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.**

Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- Encourage TIRExB members to participate, as national representatives, in the activities undertaken by ad-hoc expert groups on 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.**

Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:

- 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.
- 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.**

Output expected in 2007 and 2008:

- Analyze and monitor disputes referred to the Board and make recommendations (if necessary) to facilitate their settlement.

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

*Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:*

- 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.**

*Outputs expected in 2007 and 2008:*

- 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.**

*Output expected in 2007 and 2008:*

- Study information provided by IRU, identifying the common rules and procedures prescribed for the issue of TIR Carnets by associations.

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

*Output expected in 2007 and 2008:*

- 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 Articles 39 and 40 of the TIR Convention.**

*Outputs expected in 2007:*

- Draft an example of best practice on the application of Article 39 and 40 in case of discrepancies between the particulars on the goods manifest of the TIR Carnet and the actual content of the road vehicle and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for adoption.

**2. Preparation of best practices regarding the use of the TIR Carnet.**

*Outputs expected in 2007-2008:*

- Prepare an instruction on step-by-step filling-in of the TIR Carnet by the TIR Carnet holder and Customs authorities.
- Prepare an example of best practices on the use of the TIR Carnet by the Customs offices of departure, destination and en route.

**3. Preparation of a comment on Customs treatment of tractor units carrying out TIR transports.**

*Outputs expected in 2007-2008:*

- Prepare a comment to Article 15, paragraph 1 on Customs clearance of tractor units carrying out TIR transports and submit to the TIR Administrative Committee for adoption.

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