



**Economic and Social
Council**

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Administrative Committee for the Convention
on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers
Used in International Transport
(18 and 20 October 2000)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ^{*/}**

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 16.30 hours on Wednesday, 18 October 2000 ^{*/}**

*/ 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 UN/ECE Transport Division (Fax: + 41-22-917-0039; E-mail: martin.magold@unece.org). Documents may also be accessed through the relevant web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/welctir.htm, click "Admin. Committees"). During the meeting, missing documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.111, 1st floor, Palais des Nations).

In accordance with the accreditation procedures applicable to all meetings held at the Palais des Nations, delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the UN/ECE Transport Division) and to transmit the duly filled-in form at the latest two weeks before the session to the UN/ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+ 41-22-917-0039) or by e-mail (martin.magold@unece.org). In Geneva, 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 Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (see attached map), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, contact the UN/ECE secretariat (91-72453).

GE.00-

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In accordance with Article 19, paragraph 6 (a) of the Convention, the Executive Secretary of the UN/ECE is convening this first session of the Administrative Committee. The session of the Administrative Committee will be held in conjunction with the ninety-sixth session of the UN/ECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) (16-20 October 2000).

On the understanding that some of the participants of the Working Party will also represent their countries at the Administrative Committee and in order to use existing conference facilities as efficiently as possible, it is proposed to convene the Administrative Committee on Wednesday, 18 October 2000, starting at 16.30 hours for substantive discussions and to reconvene the Administrative Committee for the reading of the report on Friday, 20 October 2000, starting at 11.30 hours.

QUORUM

It is recalled that, according to Article 19, paragraph 8 of the Convention, "a quorum consisting of not less than one third of the Contracting Parties is required for the purposes of taking decisions. For the purpose of this paragraph, the presence of a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to its member States." As of 1 August 2000 the number of Contracting Parties to the Convention was nine (9).

TEXT OF THE CONVENTION

The complete text of the Convention is contained in document ECE/TRANS/106 (English, French, Russian and Spanish) and may be obtained directly from the UN/ECE secretariat. It may also be accessed via the UN/ECE web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/conventions/list.htm).

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1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider and adopt the agenda of its present session as prepared by the UN/ECE secretariat (TRANS/WP.30/AC.4/1).

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with Article 19, paragraph 4 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee may wish to elect, on the occasion of every session, a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman.

3. ATTENDANCE OF OBSERVERS

In accordance with Article 19, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee may decide whether "... the competent administration of any State or regional economic integration organization which is not a Contracting Party, or representatives of international organizations may, for questions which interest them, attend the sessions of the Committee as observers."

4. STATUS OF THE CONVENTION

The Committee will be informed in detail about the situation concerning the scope and the number of Contracting Parties to the Convention. A list of Contracting Parties to the Convention is contained in the annex to this agenda. Contracting Parties may wish to verify this list.

The text as well as the status of the Convention is available on the UN/ECE web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/conventions/list.htm). An introduction as well as explanatory notes to the Convention have been prepared by the UN/ECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport already in 1993. Copies of this document, available in English, French and Russian, may be obtained from the UN/ECE secretariat or through the relevant UN/ECE web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/welctir.htm, click "Admin. Committees", "AC.4").

5. PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF THE CONVENTION

Contracting Parties to the Convention have been invited by the Executive Secretary of the UN/ECE to submit proposals for amendment of the Convention. Such proposals will be circulated when received before the session.

6. PROPOSALS OTHER THAN AMENDMENTS TO THE CONVENTION

(a) Model Container Pool Agreement

The Administrative Committee may wish to take note that the UN/ECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport, at its ninety-second session, had decided to consider the consolidated model Container Pool Agreement that had been already prepared in 1994 by an UN/ECE ad hoc expert group (TRANS/WP.30/R.128) with a view to facilitating the application of the Convention and the newly introduced Customs concept "equivalent compensation" (TRANS/WP.30/184, para. 65). Due to lack of time, the Working Party so far has not considered this model Agreement.

The Administrative Committee may wish to provide guidance on the follow-up to these activities (document TRANS/WP.30/R.128, dated 15 April 1994, is available on the UN/ECE web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/welctir.htm, click "Admin. Committees", "AC.4", "Official documents"))).

(b) Implementation of the Convention: Issues for consideration

The Administrative Committee may wish to take note that the UN/ECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport, at its seventy-fourth session in 1992, had felt that, besides model container pool agreements, detailed comments to the provisions of the Convention needed to be prepared in order to facilitate the implementation of the Convention (TRANS/WP.30/147, para. 15). At its seventy-sixth session in 1993, the Working Party had decided that the UN/ECE secretariat should prepare such comments only after its consideration of the model container pool agreements (TRANS/WP.30/151, para. 56).

Since the Working Party did not continue its considerations of the consolidated model Container Pool Agreement, such comments have not yet been prepared. The UN/ECE secretariat has however prepared, for consideration by the Working Party in 1994, a document setting out a number of practical problems which needed to be addressed for an efficient implementation of the Convention (TRANS/WP.30/131). However, this document was only briefly considered by the Working Party and its detailed review has been postponed (TRANS/WP.30/157, para. 77). At its eighty-first session in 1995, the Working Party decided again to consider the practical implications of the Convention at one of its forthcoming sessions and invited delegations to prepare relevant documentation and discussion papers. Due to lack of time, the item was, however, not taken up until today TRANS/WP.30/162, para. 77).

The Administrative Committee may wish to consider the UN/ECE secretariat document with a view to providing guidance on the implementation of the Convention (TRANS/WP.30/131) (document TRANS/WP.30/R.131, dated 15 April 1994, is available on the UN/ECE web site (www.unece.org/trans/new_tir/welctir.htm, click "Admin. Committees", "AC.4", "Official documents"))).

7. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Date of next session

In accordance with Article 19, paragraph 6 (b) of the Convention, the Administrative Committee may wish to decide on the date for its next session.

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

The Administrative Committee may wish to decide whether there should be any restriction with respect to the distribution of documents issued in connection with its current session.

8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

In accordance with Article 19, paragraph 11 of the Convention, the Administrative Committee will adopt the report of its first session on the basis of a draft prepared by the UN/ECE secretariat.

Annex

**Contracting Parties
to the
Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport
(21 January 1994)**

Situation as of 1 August 2000

Austria

Cuba

Czech Republic

Italy

Malta

Slovakia

Sweden

Uzbekistan

European Community



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE - GENEVA

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Date:

Title of the Conference

Administrative Committee for the Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport, 1994 - First session

Delegation/Participant of country, Organization or Agency)

Participant: Name Mr. ' Mrs. ' Ms. ' First name(s)

Participation Category

Head of delegation ' /	Observer (organization) ' /
Delegation Member ' /	NGO ' /
Observer Country ' /	Other (Please specify below) ' /

Participation from 18 to 20 October 2000

In which language do you prefer to receive documents

English ' / French ' / Russian ' /

Official position (in own country): Passport No : Validity until:

Official telephone No: Telefax N : E-mail address:

Permanent official address:

Address in Geneva:

Accompanied by spouse Yes ' / No ' /

Family name (spouse) First Name (spouse)

On issue of ID Card		Security Use Only	
Participant signature:		Card No issued:	
Spouse signature:		Initials, UN Official	
Date :			

