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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Working Party on Customs Questions
affecting Transport

(One-hundred-and-fourth session, 17-20 June 2003,
agenda item 7 (c) (iv))

**CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT
OF GOODS UNDER COVER OF TIR CARNETS (TIR CONVENTION 1975)**

Application of the Convention

Measures to reduce the number of lost, stolen and falsified TIR Carnets

Note by the secretariat

1. In line with the request by the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) at its one-hundred-and-third session (3-7 February 2003), the International Road Transport Union (IRU) has informed the secretariat that it, together with its member associations have taken the appropriate steps to stop the issuance of so-called “red” and “blue” TIR Carnets to TIR Carnet holders as per 31 May 2003. After that date, only so-called “black” TIR Carnets, with a number above 38,000,000, preceded by a 2-letter security code, will be issued.

2. “Red” TIR Carnets have been distributed by the IRU until 30 June 2002 and bear either an eight character numbering (up to number 24,999,999) or a 10 character alpha-numeric numbering with 2 letters and 8 numbers (XB 25,000,000 to XX 34,999,999). “Blue” TIR Carnets have been distributed since 1 December 2001 and bear a 10 character alpha-numeric numbering with 2 letters and 8 numbers (AX 35,000,000 to XZ 37,999,999).

3. Customs administrations are advised to inform their Customs officials of this change, reminding them that all TIR Carnets will remain valid until the completion of the TIR transport at the Customs office of destination, provided that they have been taken under Customs control at the Customs office of departure before the expiration of the date of validity indicated in box 1 on the front cover of the TIR Carnet by the issuing association.
