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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions

affecting Transport

(One-hundredth session, 12-15 February 2002,
agenda item 7 (b) (i))

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

Revision of the Convention

**Adoption of amendment proposals and examples of best practices under Phase II of the
TIR revision process**

Approval of vehicles with sliding sheets

**Transmitted by the Liaison Committee of the Body and Trailer Building Industry
(CLCCR)**

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1. CLCCR has become aware that some approval authorities are approving vehicles with sliding sheets that are not in conformity with Annex 2, Article 4 of the TIR convention.

2. The vehicles concerned are “standard” vehicles with sliding sheets of which the design specifications do not meet the technical requirements as detailed in Annex 2, Article 4.

These vehicles, because of their design, do not meet some of the basic principles as laid down in Annex 2, Article 1. In particular, these vehicles do not meet the requirements of points (a) and (c) which specify that: “no goods can be removed from or introduced into, the sealed part of the vehicle without leaving obvious traces of tampering...” and “they contain no concealed spaces where goods may be hidden;” respectively.

3. The fact that these “standard” vehicles with sliding sheets are, in some countries, being given TIR approval is likely to lead to serious problems. When it becomes apparent to Customs authorities that with these vehicles the load can easily be manipulated, even after the vehicle has been sealed, it is likely that no distinction will be made between vehicles built to the specifications of Annex 2, Article 4 and “standard” vehicles. This is then likely to put all vehicles with sliding sheets into disrepute, including those vehicles that do conform and of which the load compartment can be effectively sealed.

4. CLCCR would like WP.30 to discuss this matter in order to be able to find a way of ensuring that only vehicles in conformance with Annex 2, Article 4 are able to get TIR approval.
