



**TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIRExB)**  
**COMMISSION DE CONTROLE TIR (TIRExB)**  
**ИСПОЛНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ СОВЕТ МДП (ИСМДП)**

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## **Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975**

### **TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)**

**Sixty-second session**  
Geneva, 2 February 2015  
Agenda item IX (a)

### **Activities of the secretariat**

#### **General activities of the secretariat - Use of the ITDB for pilot projects**

#### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **I. Background**

1. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 10, subparagraphs (c) and (d) of the TIR Convention, the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) shall coordinate and foster the exchange of intelligence and other information among competent authorities of Contracting Parties as well as coordinate and foster the exchange of information between competent authorities of Contracting Parties, associations and international organizations.
2. In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the TIRExB established by the TIR Administrative Committee, the TIR secretariat, under the direction of the TIR Secretary, shall establish and maintain an International Governmental TIR databank (ITDB) accessible to all Contracting Parties on approved and excluded transport operators (in line with Annex 9, Part II of the Convention). The ITDB was established by the TIR secretariat in 1999.
3. At its fiftieth session, the Board welcomed the developments of the eTIR Pilot Project between Turkey and Italy. The Board discussed Informal document No. 10 (2012), containing a request from the project team to allow, for the sake of the pilot project, authorized IT systems to automatically verify the status of TIR Carnet holders against the International TIR Database (ITDB). Bearing in mind the relevance of the pilot project for all TIR Contracting Parties, the Board mandated the secretariat to develop the required web services to allow the use of the data contained in the ITDB as an important step towards demonstrating the role of the ITDB in the future eTIR system (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2013/1, para. 10).
4. At its fifty-second session, the Board welcomed the development of web services that will allow authorized IT system to directly access information in the ITDB (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2013/6, para. 27).
5. At its fifty-sixth session, the Board took note that the International TIR Data Bank Web Service (ITDBWS) had been launched successfully in Finland, at the beginning of December 2013. Finnish customs authorities had integrated the secure interface into their

NCTS/TIR system, allowing them to automatically query TIR Carnet holders in the ITDB (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2014/7, para. 45).

## **II. UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project**

### **1. Use of the ITDBWS**

6. Within the framework of the UNECE-IRU eTIR Pilot Project<sup>1</sup> it could be envisaged to further demonstrate the usefulness of the ITDBWS by systematically verifying that TIR Carnet holders who are taking part in the project are authorized to use the TIR procedure.

### **2. Alignment of IRU's TIR carnet holders' databases**

7. Currently, IRU maintains three databases of TIR Carnet holders, but is planning to merge them into one. This integration process is a good opportunity for both customs administrations and the transport industry to ensure that the public and private international databases containing TIR Carnet holder data are updated and harmonized.

8. While keeping in mind that the ITDB is the only official repository for TIR Carnet holder data, the harmonization efforts could also allow identifying erroneous or missing data in the ITDB which could help customs administrations maintain the ITDB updated.

## **III. eTIR pilot between Georgia and Turkey**

9. Within the framework of the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project "Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration", in the UNECE region, Georgia and Turkey will undertake an eTIR pilot project that should implement all messages proposed in the eTIR Reference Model, including those aimed at verifying the status of TIR Carnet holders in the ITDB.

## **IV. Considerations by the Board**

10. TIRExB may wish to mandate the TIR secretariat to provide the necessary electronic keys for the IRU's systems to automatically make requests about TIR Carnet holders, thus allowing both the consultation of the ITDB in the course of the UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project as well as to make the necessary alignments of the IRU's TIR Carnet holders' databases and, possibly, identify erroneous or missing data in the ITDB.

11. The Board may also wish to mandate the TIR secretariat to provide access to the ITDB for other eTIR pilot project between TIR Contracting Parties, such as the one between Georgia and Turkey.

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<sup>1</sup> For the principles of the eTIR Pilot Project, please refer to document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2014/9, whereas its functioning is explained in Informal document GE.1 No. 6 (2014).