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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport
(One-hundred-and-eighth session, 11-15 October 2004,
agenda item 6 (b) (ii))

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

Revision of the Convention

Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

Revision of the TIR Carnet

Amendment proposals on the introduction of the ID-number of the authorized holder

Note by the secretariat

A. BACKGROUND AND MANDATE

1. At its one-hundred-and-seventh session, the Working Party decided that the time was ripe for incorporation of the provisions of the Recommendation for the use of the ID-number of the authorized holder in the body of the Convention and requested the secretariat to prepare a proposal to this end for its forthcoming session (TRANS/WP.30/214, para. 34).

^{*/} The UNECE Transport Division has submitted the present document after the official documentation deadline due to resource constraints.

B. FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

2. The Recommendation on the Introduction of an Identification (ID) Number of the TIR Carnet Holder in the TIR Carnet, adopted by the TIR Administrative Committee on 20 October 2000, consists of a body and two appendices:

- the body of the Recommendation addresses two basic issues, namely the format of the ID-number for TIR Carnet holders (paragraph 1) as well as the boxes in the TIR Carnet and Model Authorization Form (MAF) where such a number should be indicated;
- the appendices contain lists of countries and national guaranteeing associations, using the classification systems of the ISO and of the IRU, respectively.

3. It is doubtful that the body of TIR Convention or its annexes can incorporate a classification (coding) system, especially if it is established and maintained not by the Contracting Parties, but by an independent governmental or non-governmental organization. In this case, the TIR Convention would have to be amended each time when there was a change in the underlying coding chart, for example, if a new code would be inserted. Thus, the TIR Convention should make only general references to such classification systems.

C. AMENDMENT PROPOSALS

4. Taking account of the above and with a view to modifying the TIR Convention as little as possible, the secretariat proposes the following amendments to the TIR Convention:

Annex 1

Model of the TIR Carnet: VERSION 1 and VERSION 2

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Modify the text "(nom, adresse, pays / *name, address, country*)" to read as follows:

"(numéro d'identification, nom, adresse, pays / *identification number, name, address, country*)"

Voucher No.1 and voucher No.2, box 4

Modify the text "(name, address and country)" to read as follows:

"identification number, name, address and country"

Annex 9, Part II

Model Authorization Form (MAF)

Modify the second paragraph below the table to read as follows:

" - Individual and unique identification (ID) number assigned to the person by the guaranteeing association (in cooperation with the international organization to which it is affiliated) in accordance with a harmonized format. The format of an ID-number shall be determined by the Administrative Committee."

5. In addition, it is proposed to add the following comment to Annex 9, Part II, Model Authorization Form:

"Format of an individual and unique identification (ID) number

The Administrative Committee has established the following format of an ID-number for TIR Carnet holders being persons who have been authorized to utilize TIR Carnets in accordance with Annex 9, Part II of the TIR Convention:

"AAA BBB XX...X",

whereby "AAA" represents a 3-letter code of the country where the person utilizing TIR Carnets has been authorized, in line with the classification system of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). A full list of country codes of the Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention is regularly published as an annex to the agendas and official reports of the Administrative Committee,

whereby "BBB" represents a 3-digit code of the national association through which the holder of the TIR Carnet has been authorized, in accordance with the classification system established by the relevant international organization to which the association is affiliated, allowing for unequivocal identification of each national association. A full list of country codes of the national associations is regularly published as an annex to the agendas and official reports of the Administrative Committee,

whereby "XX...X" represents consecutive numbers (maximum 10 digits), identifying the person authorized to utilize TIR Carnets in accordance with Annex 9, Part II of the TIR Convention. The number cannot be alienated from the person to whom it has been assigned. In particular, it shall not be given to any other person, even if the original bearer of this number no longer exists. In addition, once authorized to utilize TIR Carnets, the person shall keep the same number, even after he has ceased to be a TIR Carnet holder.

To facilitate the reading of the ID-number, its three parts (AAA, BBB and XX...X) may be split with different separators (spaces, hyphens (-), strokes (/), etc). However, for electronic data interchange these separators should be omitted, as they do not contain additional information."

6. The Working Party may wish to discuss the above proposals with a view to transmitting them to the TIR Administrative Committee for consideration and possible approval.
