UNECE legal instruments and the private sector

New York, 5 June 2014

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Under Secretary General
Head of IRU Permanent Delegation to the UN
This is the IRU
Evolution of IRU Membership

1948: eight founder countries

2014: 170 Members in 75 countries

...and CRIPA: 27 Members + FESARTA in 38 countries
IRU Partner Organisations

Global partners
UN, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNMAS, UN-OHRLLS, UNWTO, UNGC, ILO, IMO, ITF, WCO, WHO, WTO

Regional partners
AU, AULT, BSEC, CAREC, CEMAC, CIS, CTC, Customs Union, ECO, EEC, EU Institutions, EurAsEC, FESARTA, GUAM, ICDT, LAS, OAS, OSCE, SCO, TRACECA, UNECA, UNECE, UNECLAC, UNESCAP, UNESCWA, UfM

International Financial Institutions
Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AFDB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), World Bank
4 priority areas

- Trade facilitation and sustainable supply chains
- Infrastructure development
- Needs of countries in special situations
- Safety and security
Implement key UN facilitation instruments to allow road transport to drive trade and achieve the SDGs!
Multimodal TIR

- TIR Convention of 1975 includes multimodality. Goods transport across one or more frontiers provided some portion is made by road.

- Other modes of transport can be used for non-road leg.

- Today increasing number of multimodal TIR transports:
  - RO/RO transports through ferry services (Black Sea, Caspian Sea, Baltic States, Mediterranean, Persian Gulf)
  - Block trains (ECO region)
1982 Harmonization Convention

- To facilitate cross border transport of goods through nationally coordinated, internationally harmonized, shorter, reduced formalities and controls of goods at borders

Benefits:
- Reduction of border delays,
- Reduction of transport costs
- Reduction of trade transaction costs
- Reduction of border operating costs for State budget
- More efficient investments in border facilities
Hard and soft infrastructure
IRU/UNOPS Investment Forum, 28 April

IRU/UNOPS INVESTMENT FORUM AND NETWORKING RECEPTION
28 April 2014
Evolution of sea containers in ports

Globale Container Overslag
2010
Telecommunications gap corresponds to the regions that have not been interconnected to global trade

Source: Centre for Strategic International Studies (CSIS), Washington, DC
Almaty Programme of Action (APoA)

International Ashgabat Conference (16 May 2012)

Road transport event during Vientiane Regional Meeting

International Dushanbe Conference (18 September 2013)
IRU-UNMAS: Demining Afghanistan – an innovative public-private partnership

UN Decade of Action for Road Safety

- UN Mine Action Service and IRU team up to improve road safety in Afghanistan by removing landmines around roads
- Moving Afghanistan from aid to trade by securing road networks linking Kabul to its Central Asian neighbours
- Clear area of 15 sq km, impact daily lives of 21 communities, direct benefit for over 3,000 families, indirect beneficiaries = 7 million people

The blog: http://demining-afghanistan.org/
UN Resolution “Improving global road safety” A/68/L.40

“Acknowledging a number of other important international efforts on road safety, including the development by the International Road Transport Union of harmonized and internationally recognized standards for vocational training of road transport professionals.”

Road Safety Initiative (targeted at distracted driving):

- Initiative by the Turkmen Government (national programme)
- Inclusion in the text of the UN Resolution