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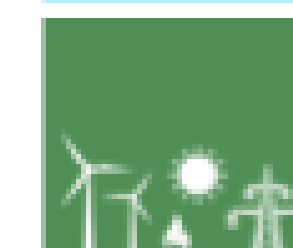
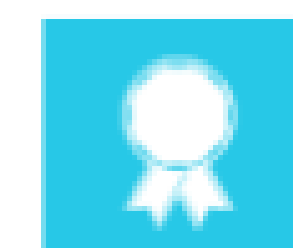
Developments in border crossing facilitation 2017

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Overview

Latest developments in:

- TIR Convention
- Harmonization Convention
- 1954 Temporary Importation Convention
- New Rail Convention



Amendment proposals adopted:

- Increase recommended maximum amount from \$ 50,000 to 100,000 euros;
- Reinforce possibilities for AC.2 to examine audited financial statements by the authorized international organization;
- Stricter requirements for the authorized international organization on record keeping and engaging an independent external auditor;
- Improve practical application of certain provisions of the Convention, including its annexes.



eTIR

- UNECE/IRU pilot between Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Turkey concluded successfully;
- 6 October 2017: 5 year MoU and CA between UNECE and IRU in the field of computerization of the TIR procedure.
- Contracting Parties have to finance themselves national amendments to their customs ICT systems – ITC is invited to support that they make the necessary provisions to ensure this.
- ITC is requested to prolong the mandate of GE.1 to 2018.
- GE.2 finalized its mandate and submitted draft optional Annex 11 (containing the legal provisions of eTIR) to WP.30 for further discussion.



- Allegations against some members of the management of IRU, related to the insurance schema implemented by IRU in 1995;
- IRU Presidential Executive commissioned an independent external audit
- Executive Summary shared with all Contracting Parties
- Contracting Parties have access to the full report at various IRU offices
- Legal proceedings by General Prosecutor of Geneva against senior staff members of IRU still ongoing (no information provided in the course of ongoing investigations)
- IRU decided to terminate its relationship with one of the two national associations of Romania



ITDB

New ITDB and ITDB Web Services launched on May 2017

- Tripled the number of users
- Tripled the number of Contracting Parties connected to the Web Service
- Repository on Customs offices to be released March 2018
- Mandatory usage in EU as of June 2018



New accessions

-  India, 15 June 2017
-  State of Palestine, 29 December 2017
-  Qatar, 26 January 2018

+ the TIR system has become operational in the United Arab Emirates per 28 November 2017

TIR Convention now has 73 Contracting Parties/72 Contracting States



- 58 Contracting Parties, 57 Contracting States
- Efforts to introduce a new Annex 10, on seaports
- At June 2017 session, WP.30 decided to abandon the project, while fully aware of the request from ITC (from 2010) and with due respect for all undertaken efforts over the years.
- Convene session of AC.3 to confirm decision (June 2019) and to, possibly, embark on other projects

1954 Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation Convention for Private Vehicles

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- Ongoing issues in Egypt and Jordan
- Customs authorities do not seem to respect the deadlines and procedures laid down in the Convention
- Leading up to claims going back dozens of years (in Egypt up to 1969)
- Courts force national associations nevertheless to pay
- Next (and final step): invite missions to attend 149th session of WP.30
- ITC is invited to express its support for these efforts

Draft Convention on the Facilitation of border crossing procedures for passengers, luggage and load-luggage carried in international traffic by Rail

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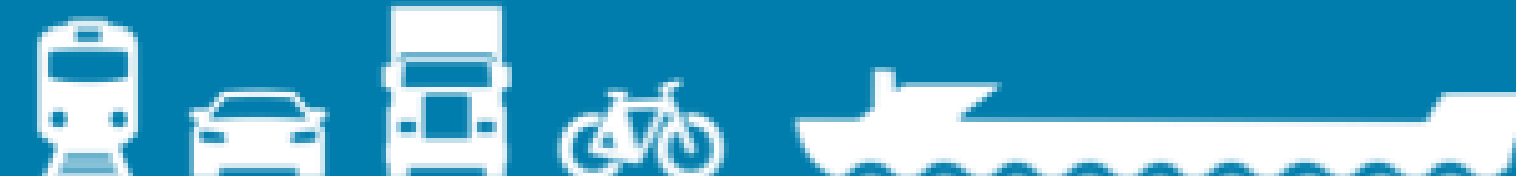
- Draft final text ready and checked by the Office of Legal Affairs, Treaty Section
- No REIO clause
- Azerbaijan, Belarus, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Turkey and Uzbekistan reported on ongoing interagency consultations
- European Union consultations on a Council decision ongoing
- SC.2 delegates and railway authorities from major Asian countries will be invited to attend WP.30 sessions



- At the request of ITC at its 79th session, WP.30 has amended its Terms of Reference to contribute to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Agenda and the related Sustainable Development Goals.
- ITC as parent body is requested to adopt this change.



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Thank you!

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