UNECE practical experience in global customs to customs connectivity for transit

Seminar for the Promotion of Electronic Exchange of Customs Information and the Adoption of Standard Electronic Messages
André Sceia / June 20-21, 2016
Computerization of UNECE conventions

• Convention on International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (*TIR Convention*)
  – Conceptual and technical work: *eTIR project*
  – Legal work ongoing
  – International TIR Data Bank (ITDB)

• Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (*CRM Convention*)
  – Legal (*eCMR Protocol in force since June 2011*)
  – No technological considerations at the level of the convention
What is TIR

Example TIR transport

1 Customs office of departure (Minsk)

1 Customs office of destination (Barcelona)

1 intermediate Customs office of departure (Kiev)

2 Border crossings

1 TIR transport (1 Guarantee)

1..4 TIR operations

3 Customs territories

7 Countries
Rationale for the eTIR project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private</th>
<th>Public</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport operator</td>
<td>Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2B: Guarantee certificate</td>
<td>C2C: Transport &amp; Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2C: Declaration &amp; guarantee certificate</td>
<td>C2B: Transport &amp; Operations</td>
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</tbody>
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Guarantee Chain

National Association

International organization

National

International
The eTIR system: a public private partnership

- Transport Operator
- Guarantee Chain
- Customs
- eTIR international system

Private: B2C, C2B
Public: B2C, C2C
eTIR main principles
Management of guarantee data by customs
eTIR main principles

Customs to customs data exchange
International standards

- WCO Data model
- WCO Data elements
- UNTDED
- Core components
- UN/EDIFACT
- XML
- Code lists: UNECE, ISO,..
- ...
eTIR high-level architecture

Customs

C2C data exchange

UNECE

TIR guarantee & transport DB

ITDB

Web Services

TIR holders

TIR associations

TIR-EPD

B2C

C2B

IRU

TIR Internal Portal

TIR Trusted Data Exchange

Trusted Data Exchange

TIR Holders Portal

TIR Driver Mobile Portal

TIR Association Portal

ITDB

Web Services

B2C

TIR-EPD
The eTIR project: from theory to practice

• Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1)

• eTIR pilot projects
  – Georgia-Turkey
  – Iran-Turkey

• Group of Experts on Legal Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.2)
  – Works on the legal provisions
The practice: the eTIR pilot projects

- UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project between Iran and Turkey

- Georgia-Turkey eTIR pilot project
UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project between Iran and Turkey

- Legal basis: Terms of Reference (ToR) signed by Customs, associations, UNECE and IRU.

- Use IRU IT systems for the operational data exchange with replication of data on a dedicated IT system hosted at UNECE (Light-weight eTIR international system).

- TIR Carnets replaced by exchanges of electronic messages and a signed «print-at-home» version of the TIR Carnet (for the declaration).

- eGuarantees replace TIR Carnets as proof of guarantee.

- Limited application for the pilot: limited number of transport companies, limited number of Customs offices, 1 border crossing points.

- Partially funded by IRU.
Systems used for the UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project

Customs (Turkey and Iran)

C2C data exchange

Replication

TIR DB

TIR guarantee & transport DB

Customs (Turkey and Iran)

TIR holders

TIR associations
Georgia-Turkey eTIR pilot project

- Legal basis: Protocol on electronic data exchange in the framework of a joint eTIR Pilot Project, signed by Mr. Nodar Khaduri, Minister of Finance of Georgia, and Mr. Bülent Tüfenkci, Minister of Customs and Trade of the Republic of Turkey.

- Use a versatile Central Exchange Platform (CEP) hosted at UNECE.

- C2C exchange of standard eTIR electronic messages on TIR transports between both countries (WCO data model).

- Paper TIR Carnets are used in parallel.

- Data exchange about all TIR transports between both countries.

- Partially funded by a global United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project.
CEP used for the Georgia-Turkey eTIR pilot project

Data Exchange
Outcomes

• The UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot has demonstrated that the paper TIR Carnet can be replaced by an exchange of electronic messages for C2C data exchange and proof of guarantee.

• All parties involved (including transport operators) expressed great satisfaction and want to continue and extend the project.

• The eTIR pilot project between Georgia and Turkey will demonstrate the feasibility of using a generic exchange platform for C2C data exchange.

• Main challenges ahead:
  – prepare legal provisions, including the replacement of paper signatures by an electronic alternative valid internationally;
  – finance more resilient IT infrastructures.
eTIR legal considerations

• Group of Experts on Legal Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.2) researching
  – Best legal framework
    • amending the TIR Convention
    • an optional Annex
    • a protocol
    • a new convention
  – Other legal considerations
    • Authentication and data integrity (eSignature, X.842, …)
    • Data protection
Thank you

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