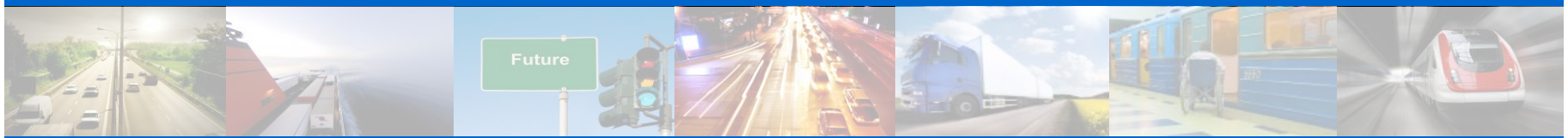




United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Transport Division

Strengthening border crossing facilitation

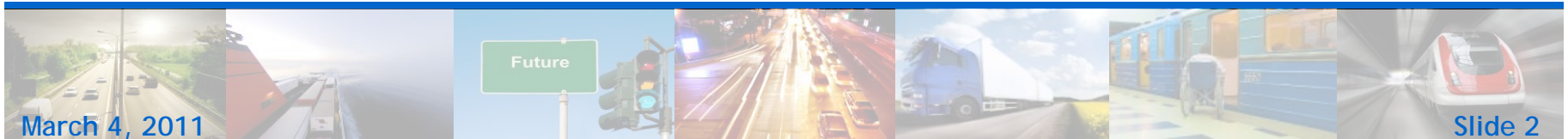
Konstantin Glukhenkiy
Inland Transport Committee
1-3 March 2011





Outline

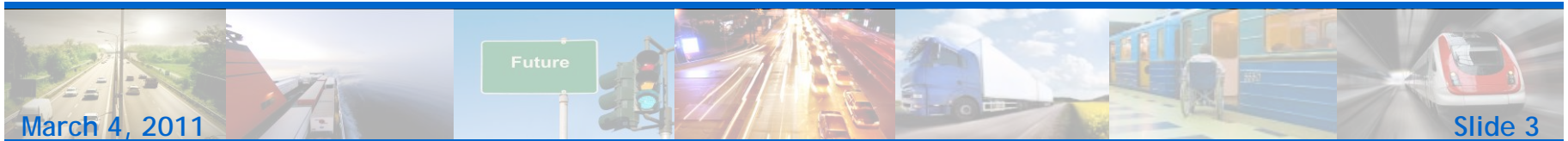
- Harmonization Convention (agenda item 10 (h))
- Computerization of TIR (eTIR project) (agenda item 10 (h))
- Financing the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) and the TIR secretariat (ECE/TRANS/2011/4)
- UNECE-IRU agreement (ECE/TRANS/2011/4)
- Transparency and good governance in the TIR system (ECE/TRANS/2011/4)





Harmonization Convention

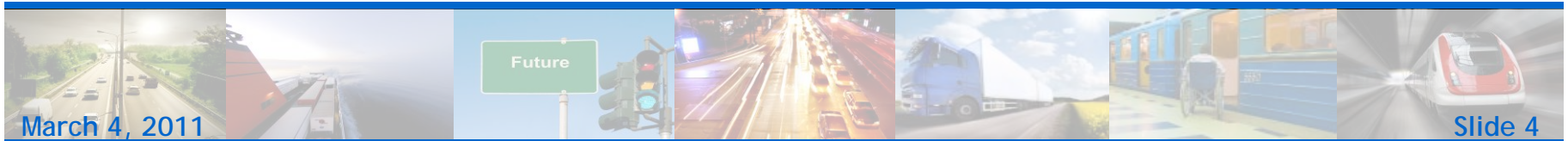
- New Annex 9 on rail border crossing adopted in May 2010
- It will enter into force on 30 November 2011 unless objections are transmitted to the United Nations Secretary-General before 31 August 2011
- For information of ITC





TIR Convention: priorities indetified by the UNECE reform

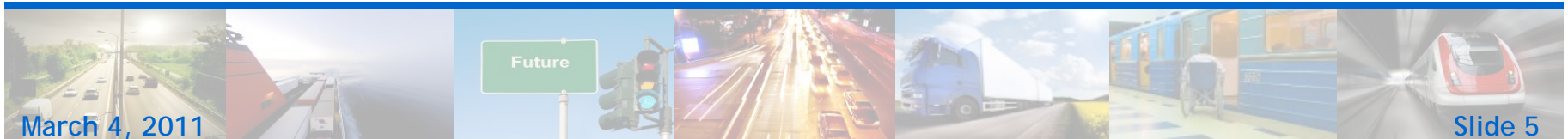
- to strengthen the TIR Convention;
- to improve transparency in its management





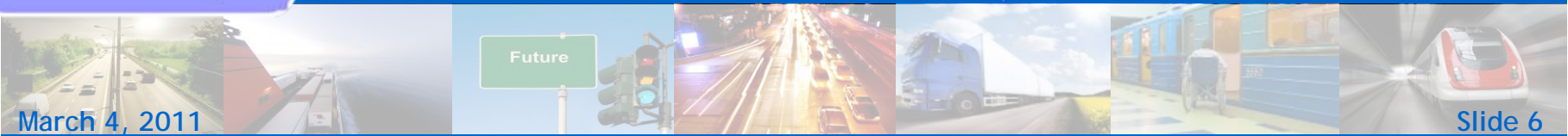
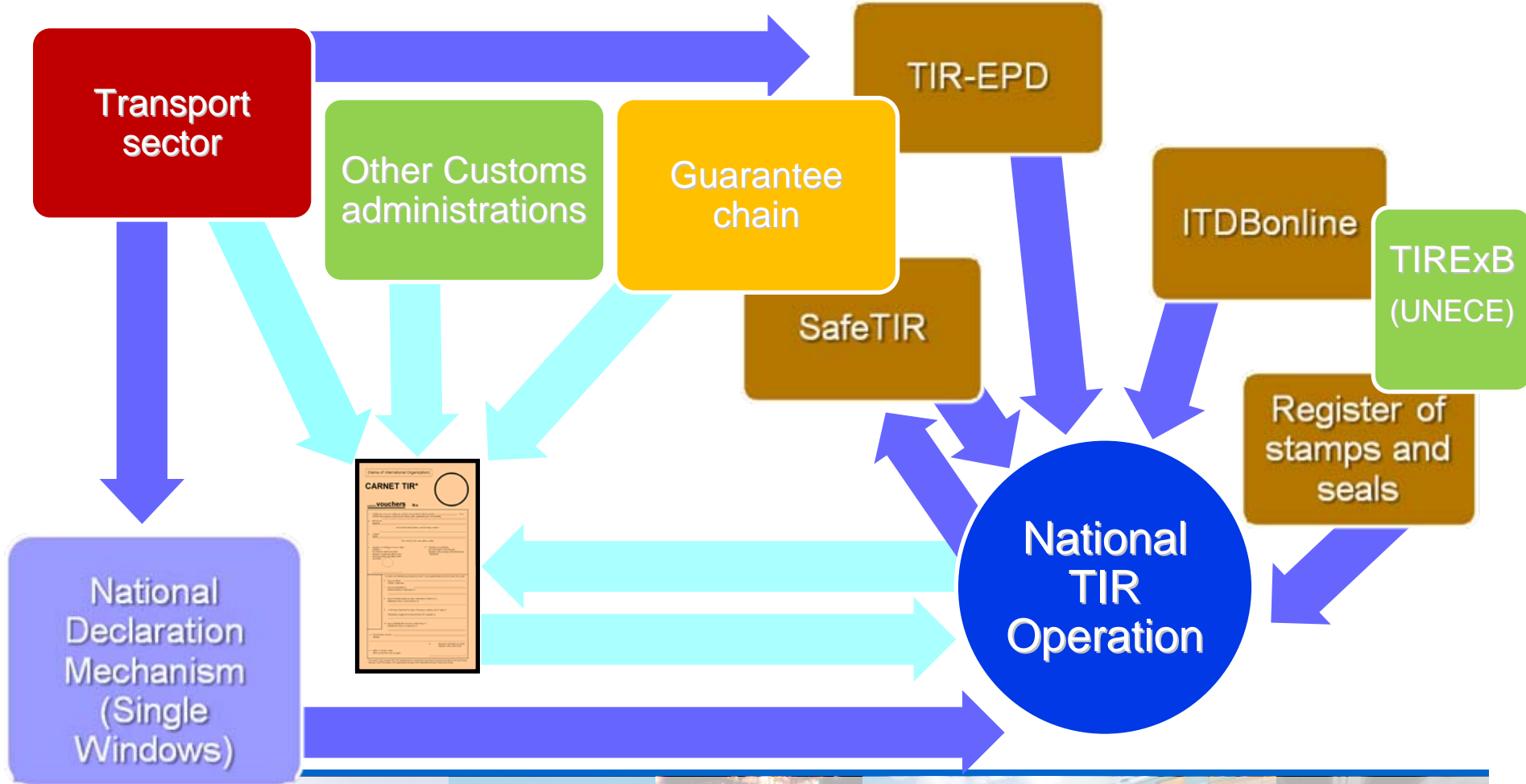
eTIR project: issues at stake

- Informal Ad hoc Expert Group (WP.30/GE.1) - 18th session next week
- Technical provisions - eTIR reference model
- Financial implications, including a cost/benefit analysis, should be addressed
- Legal provisions: to amend the current Convention or to draft a new eTransit convention?



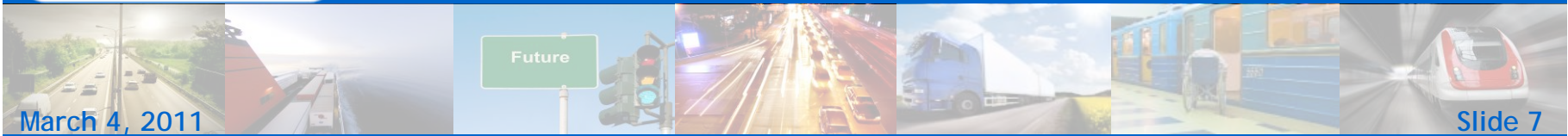
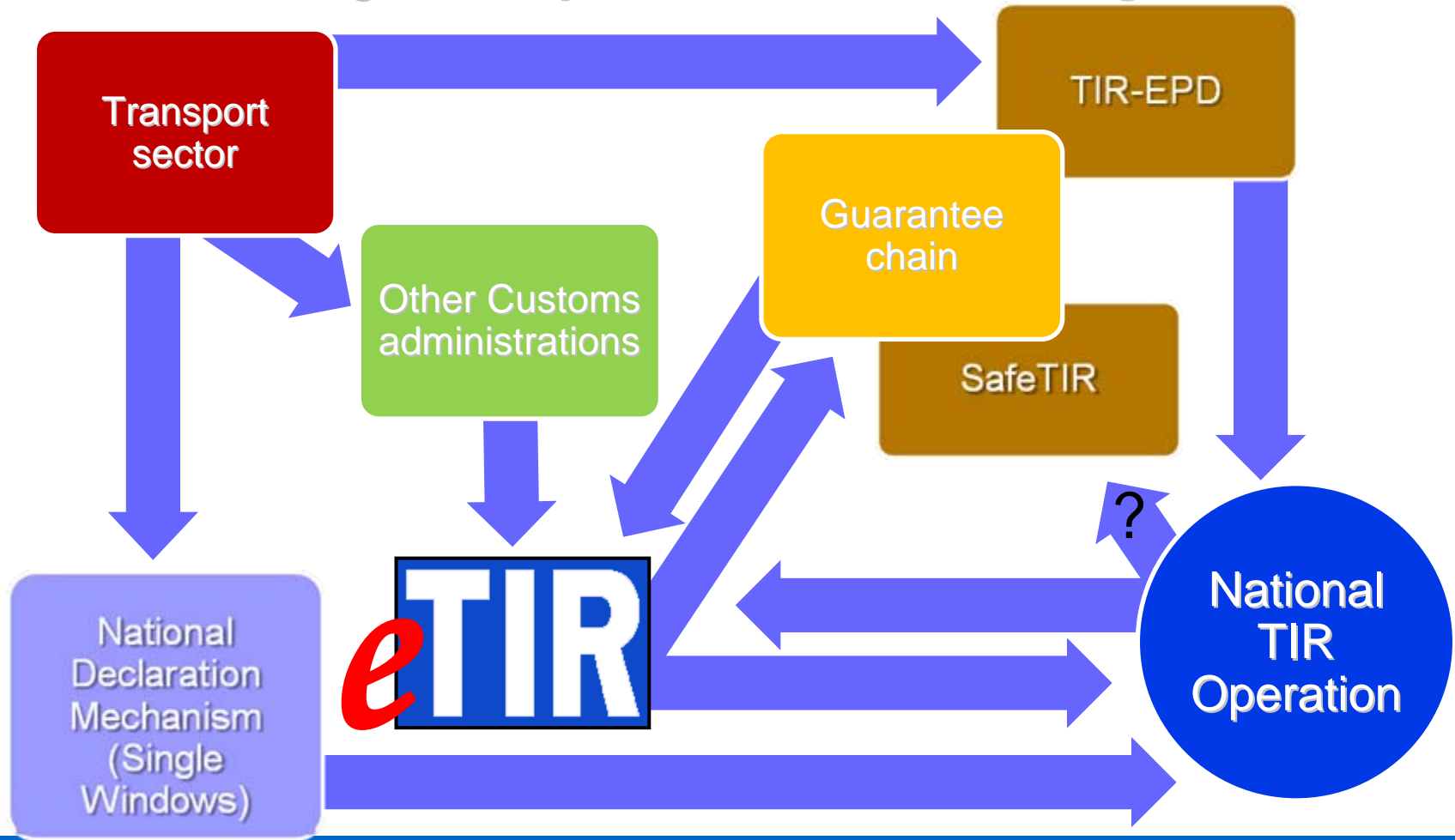


Current environment





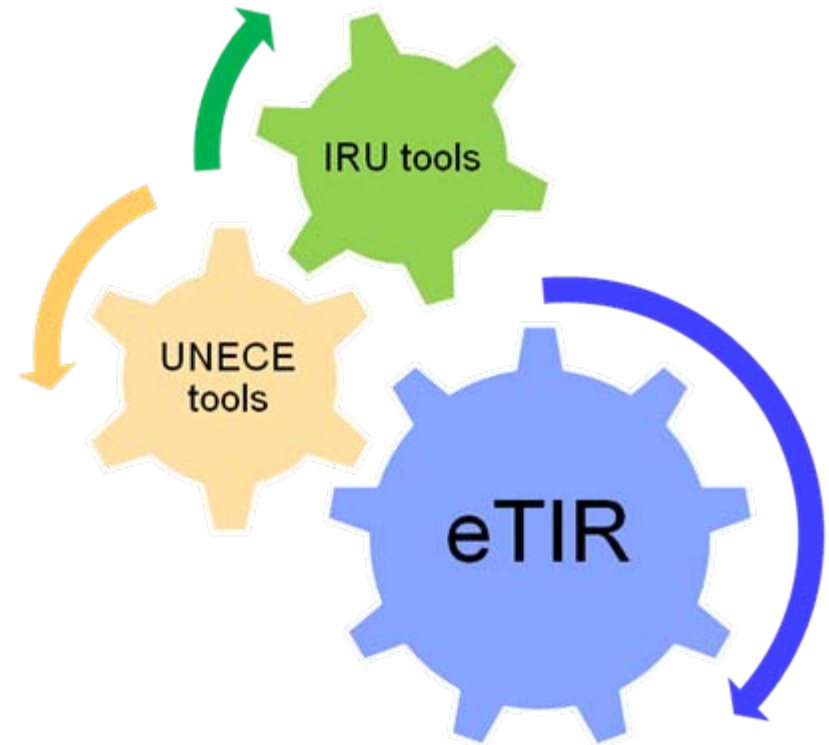
Fully computerized eTIR system





What will happen to the present IT tools?

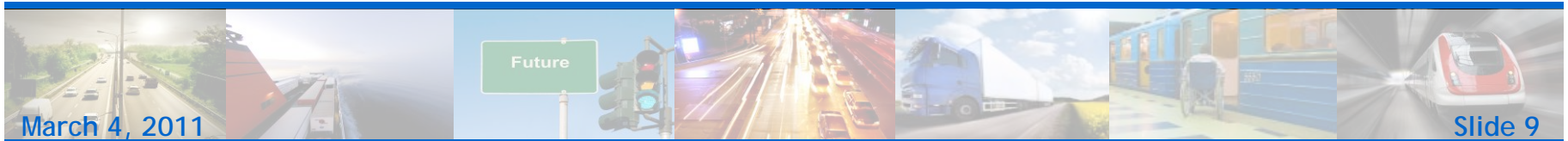
Existing IT tools are essential for the well functioning of the TIR procedure and will be part of the eTIR system





ITC is invited:

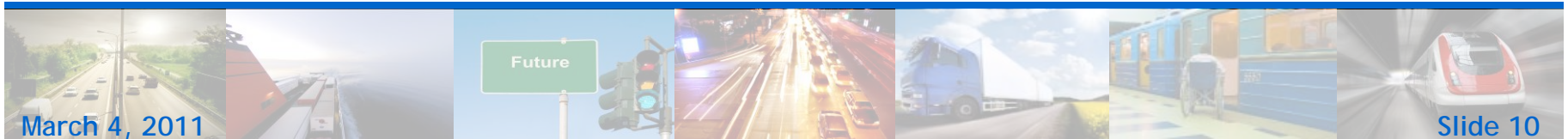
- to support the continuation of the eTIR project and to prolong the mandate of WP.30/GE.1
- to mandate UNECE to provide the necessary resources to conduct a cost/benefit analysis of a computerized TIR system





Financing the operation of TIRExB and the TIR secretariat

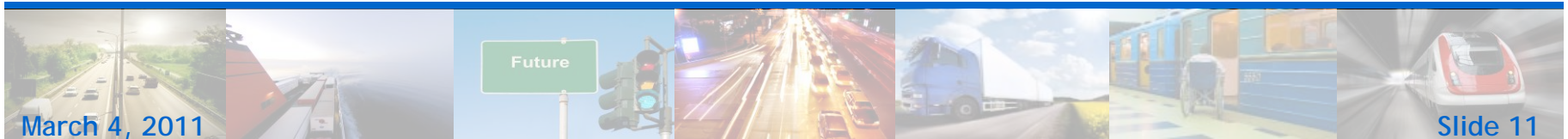
- Since the establishment in 1999, financed through a small amount per TIR Carnet (currently CHF 0,33 - less than 1% of the TIR Carnet price by IRU)
- Contracting Parties envisaged eventual financing through the UN Regular Budget
- TIR Administrative Committee invited CP and UNECE to take steps to include the operation into the Regular Budget as of the next UN budget cycle
- For information of ITC





UNECE-IRU agreement

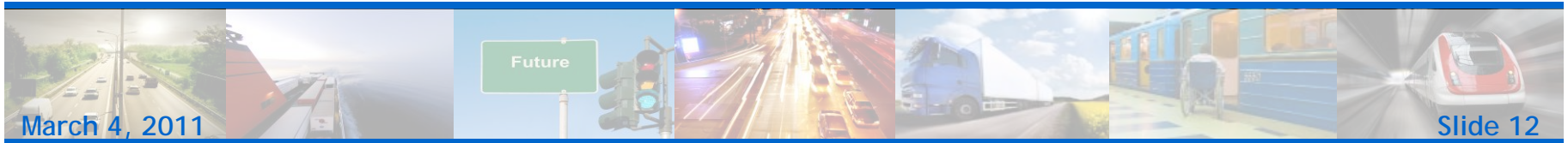
- to confirm the authorization granted to IRU
- to ensure the transfer of funds to the TIR Trust Fund for the operation of the TIRExB and TIR secretariat
- new agreement for 2011-2013 signed in November 2010
- IRU requested (i) a special title to distinguish IRU from other NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC and (ii) to introduce a Steering Committee, with the participation of IRU, to administer the TIR Trust Fund. So far, no support by the TIR Administrative Committee
- For information of ITC





Transparency and good governance in the TIR system

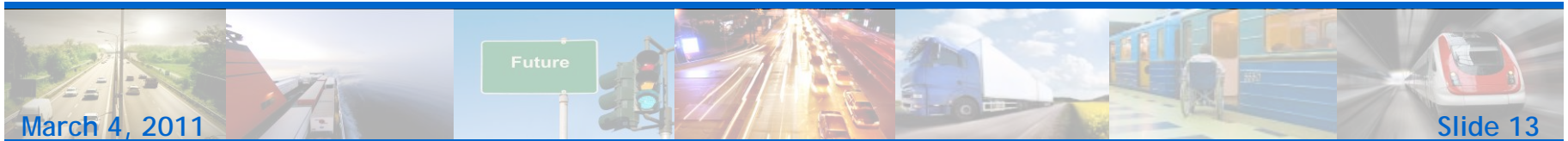
- Cannot be insured without proper audits of an international organization authorized to distribute TIR Carnets and organize the guarantee system
- Currently audits cover less than 1% of the TIR revenues
- Contracting Parties grant an NGO an authorization (license) to perform certain tasks and revenue-generating opportunities





Transparency and good governance in the TIR system

- Monopolistic situation: there is only one authorized NGO for the time being
- CPs must have the right to verify how the authorized NGO uses the privileges and financial tools granted by the authorization
- Audit amendments are considered by WP.30
- Supported by EXCOM in December 2010
- ITC is invited to take note of and support





Thank you for your attention



UNECE
Transport Division



Future

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