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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
FOR THE TIR CONVENTION, 1975**

**TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)**

(Thirty-third session, 11 June 2007,  
agenda item 8)

**OTHER MATTERS**

**Application of the TIR procedure in the Russian Federation**

**Transmitted by the International Road Transport Union (IRU)**

1. In February 2007, the IRU was informed by various national associations that some Russian customs offices, in particular those attached to the North-West Customs department, refuse systematically to accept TIR Carnets when the customs taxes and duties for the transported goods exceed 50'000 USD.
2. The interruption of the TIR procedure in such circumstances does not seem to be in line with the TIR Convention, in particular its article 23. The IRU informed the TIRExB during its thirty-second session and was asked to submit a document for consideration (TIRExB/REP/2007/32draft, par. 30).
3. According to the information available, it seems that the TIR Carnets are either not accepted at all, or opened and immediately terminated by the Customs office of entry. The following part of the transport operation is then carried out with a national document (Transit Declaration – TD) and under escort. If the TIR Carnet is stamped, the counterfoils No 1 and 2 are marked with an inscription: “further transport is carried out under TD (ref. No...) because the TIR guarantee is exceeded”.
4. Since February the situation has not changed. For example, according to one of our Associations, 180 TIR Carnets were returned to the Association in April 2007 after the TIR operation had been stopped at the entrance on the territory of the Russian Federation.

5. The use of a Transit Declaration is subject to a payment of about 1500 rub = 50 USD. The escorts to the final destination inside the Russian Federation are at the carriers' expense and have to be added to the above-mentioned amount.

6. Moreover, the concerned Customs authorities did not provide any SafeTIR information for these TIR transports, thus leaving the TIR Carnets without an electronic confirmation of the termination.

7. The IRU hopes that the TIRExB will consider this issue in order to restore normal procedures.

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