



TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIRExB)

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COMMISSION DE CONTROLE TIR (TIRExB)

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ИСПОЛНИТЕЛЬНЫЙ СОВЕТ МДП (ИСМДП)

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Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)

Fiftieth session

Athens, 14–15 May 2012

Agenda item 3

Current status of the eTIR Project

Note by the secretariat

A. Legal background and mandate

1. In accordance with Annex 8, Article 10, subparagraphs (c) and (d) of the TIR Convention, the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) shall coordinate and foster the exchange of intelligence and other information among competent authorities of Contracting Parties as well as coordinate and foster the exchange of information between competent authorities of Contracting Parties, associations and international organizations.

2. In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the TIRExB established by the TIR Administrative Committee, the TIR secretariat, under the direction of the TIR Secretary, shall establish and maintain an International Governmental TIR databank (ITDB) accessible to all Contracting Parties on approved and excluded transport operators (in line with Annex 9, Part II of the Convention).

3. The ITDB was established by the TIR secretariat in 1999. At present, it contains information on more than 36,000 active TIR Carnet holders.

B. eTIR Pilot Project by Turkey

4. At the 128th session of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) in June 2011, Turkey first introduced its so-called “eTIR Pilot Project”. The aim of this pilot project was to further facilitate legitimate trade and transport between the Customs authorities of Turkey and other TIR Contracting Parties, through an extended use of information and communication technologies (ICT). The ultimate objective of the advance exchanges of information is to allow Customs authorities to carry out risk analysis at central level in advance in order to facilitate and to accelerate the border crossing of goods consignments to, from and through Turkey and any selected TIR Contracting Party as well as to avoid the repetitious keying in of the information on the TIR Carnet. The pilot project builds on the work of the Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1). Therefore, the procedures and messages that are under development for the sake of the pilot project are largely based on the requirements, analysis and design contained in the eTIR Reference

Model. In September 2011, Turkey asked and obtained acceptance from the European Commission for the pilot project under the condition that it would neither interfere with Turkey's accession to the Common Transit Convention nor that there would be any changes to NCTS/TIR. In addition, the pilot project met with full support from UNECE. In December 2011, the Italian Customs authorities agreed to get involved in the pilot project.

C. Issues of relevance to TIRExB

5. At the first session of the project team, consisting of representatives from the Turkish and Italian Customs authorities, the European Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) TIR secretariat and the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), which took place in February 2012, the team discussed, inter alia, that, further to the description of the eTIR project, it would be useful to systematically check the status of TIR Carnet holders from Turkey and Italy against the data available in the ITDB. To this end, a web service would need to be developed, allowing the eTIR Pilot Project exchange platform to automatically query the ITDB. The UNECE TIR secretariat was requested to solicit the support from TIRExB.

D. Considerations by TIRExB

6. TIRExB is requested to approve that, in the framework of the pilot project, the eTIR Pilot Project exchange platform may systematically query the data on authorized Turkish and Italian TIR Carnet holders against the data available in ITDB, while fully respecting the terms of reference of ITDB. In addition, TIRExB is requested to mandate the secretariat to develop the required web service to enable the querying of the ITDB by 2013.

DISCLAIMER

In accordance with the provisions of the TIR Convention, 1975, Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention are responsible for the collection and transmission of information to the TIRExB and the ITDB. Thus, the UNECE TIR secretariat cannot be held responsible for any omissions. The UNECE TIR secretariat maintains the ITDB on behalf of the TIRExB, pursuant to a mandate of the TIR secretariat under the Convention and the Terms of Reference of the TIRExB. Contracting Parties and their designated Customs officials are the sole intended users of the information contained in the ITDB. No other person, or entity, shall have any rights whatsoever, relating to the information contained in the ITDB.

The content of the information transmitted by the Contracting Parties to the UNECE secretariat, and in particular information provided by a Contracting Party under Article 38, has been determined by the transmitting Contracting Party, and the UNECE TIR secretariat has thus not been involved in determining the content nor has it made any attempt to ascertain the accuracy of such information. As such, the information provided in the ITDB is provided ‘as is’, without warranty of any kind. The UNECE TIR secretariat specifically does not make any warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of the information provided in the ITDB, and, thus, the UNECE TIR secretariat cannot be held responsible for any omissions. Under no circumstances shall the UNECE TIR secretariat be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of the ITDB, including, without limitation, any fault, error, omission, interruption or delay with respect thereto. Under no circumstances, including but not limited to negligence, shall the UNECE TIR secretariat be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special or consequential damages, even if the UNECE TIR secretariat has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

The user of the ITDB specifically acknowledges and agrees that the UNECE TIR secretariat is not liable for any conduct of any Contracting Party, pursuant to disclosure by the UNECE TIR secretariat, of information in the ITDB, in particular with regard to information provided under Article 38 of the TIR Convention.