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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions
affecting Transport

Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and
Technical Aspects of the Computerization of the TIR Convention
(24-25 January 2002,
agenda item 4 (b))

**INFORMAL AD HOC EXPERT GROUP ON
CONCEPTUAL AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE
COMPUTERIZATION OF THE TIR PROCEDURE**

Activities of the informal ad hoc group

Design of flow charts

Note by the secretariat

A. Introduction

1. At its ninety-ninth session, the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport, mandated the secretariat to organize, inter alia, meetings of an informal ad hoc expert group which should study the conceptual and technical aspects of the computerization process of the TIR Convention, including the financial and administrative implications of its introduction, both at the national and at the international level, and prepare a draft set of electronic messages to allow for an interchange of electronic data, nationally, between Contracting Parties and with international organizations (TRANS/WP.30/198, para. 67).

2. In line with Article 18 of the TIR Convention, a TIR transport may involve more than one Customs office of departure and destination, as long as their total number does not exceed four. In addition, each TIR transport involves at least two countries, one country of departure and one country of destination and possibly one or more countries of transit.

3. Therefore, a number of flow charts can be drawn up, depending on the chosen itinerary and on the places of loading and unloading of the goods. The purpose of a flow chart is to show in a comprehensive, consistent and chronological manner all possible actors and actions foreseen in a given procedure. The flow chart in Annex 1 tries to generalize the flow of information of a TIR operation from the Customs office of departure to the Customs office of final destination, regardless of the number of countries involved. The flow chart should be understood as follow:

- the various actors are listed in the columns,
- the boxes represent the TIR Carnet,
- the text in the boxes describes the action taken by each actor,
- the arrows show the movements of the TIR Carnet and
- the call-outs explain the various alternatives.

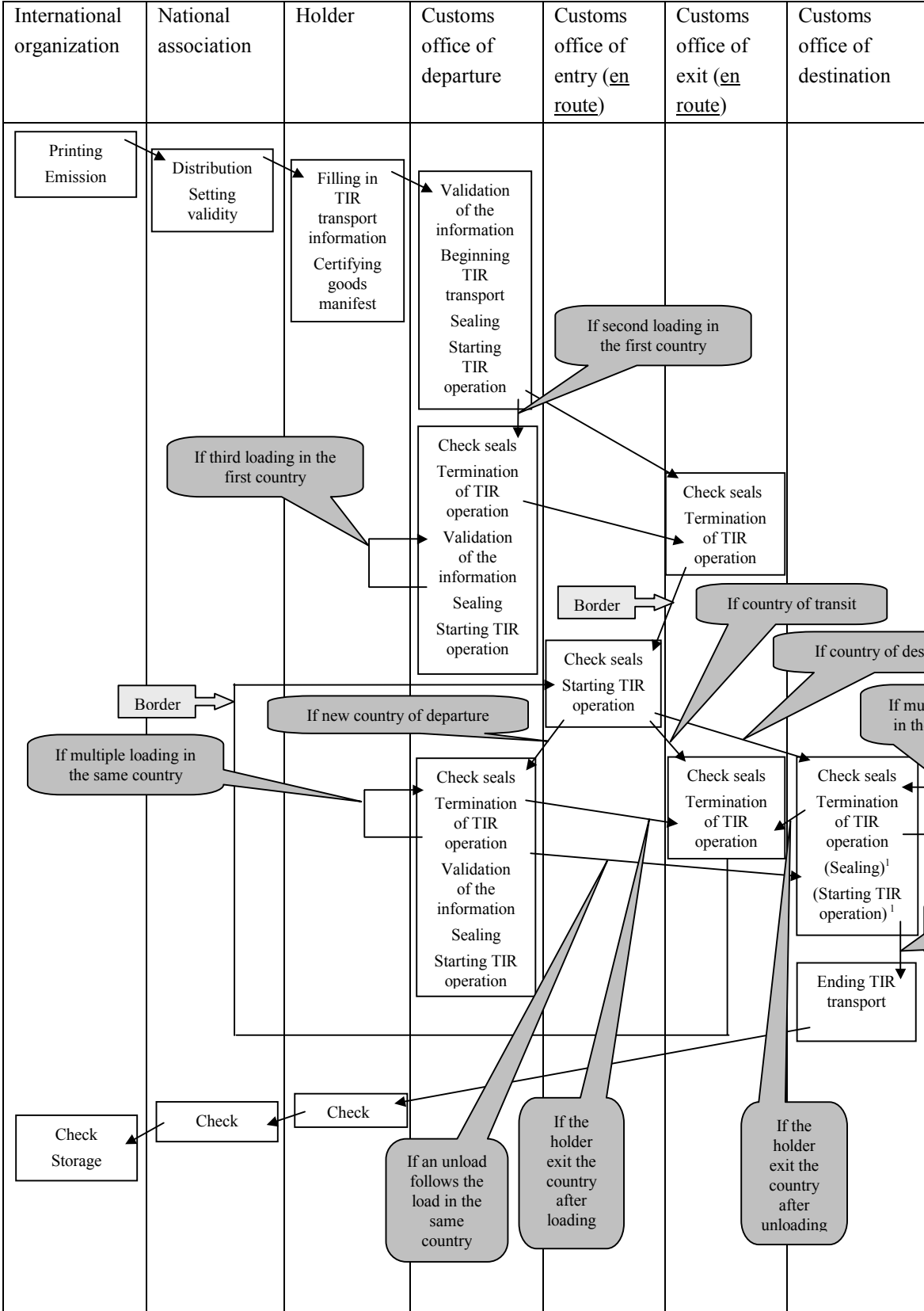
4. At this stage, the flow chart only covers the life cycle of a TIR Carnet and thus ignores, for the time being, the various alternative measures and actions involved in the national discharge procedure. Nor does the flow chart cover the so-called SafeTIR-procedure or additional national and international mechanisms and procedures, that may be required to ensure an efficient and secure EDI based TIR system under the supervision of the Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention. These aspects would need to be added at a later stage.

5. Two examples of itineraries are represented in Annex 2 to this document.

6. In preparation for the meeting, the members of the Expert Group are kindly requested to:

- Study the flow chart, amending and/or adding information where possible;
 - Study the inclusion of the so-called SafeTIR procedure into the flow chart;
 - Study the inclusion of the discharge procedure into the flow chart;
 - Comment on the example operations.
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Annex 1
Flow chart: TIR Carnet life cycle

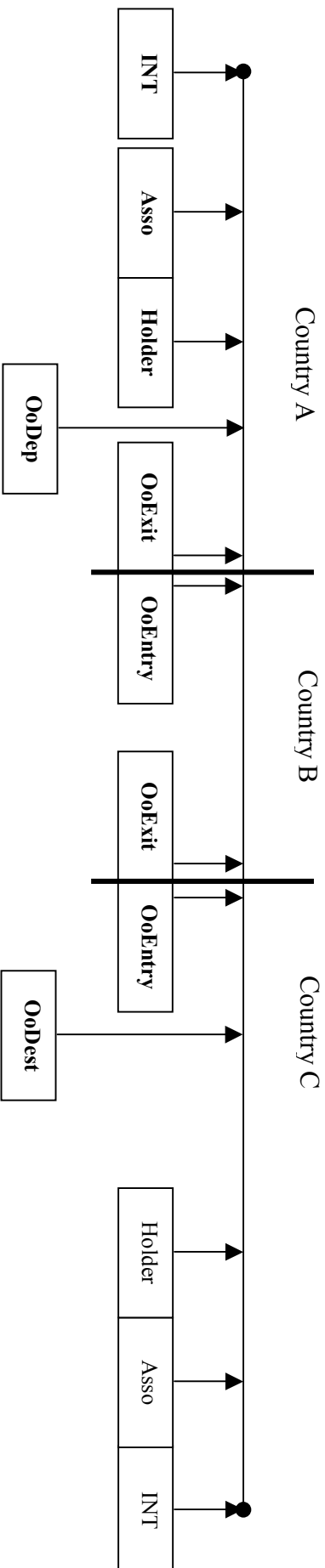


¹ If not final destination

Annex 2 -Examples

Example 1 : Life cycle of a TIR Carnet involving 2 loading/unloading points

Number of countries of departure:	1
Number of countries of destination:	1
Number of countries of transit:	1
Number of custom offices implied:	6
Number of vouchers:	6



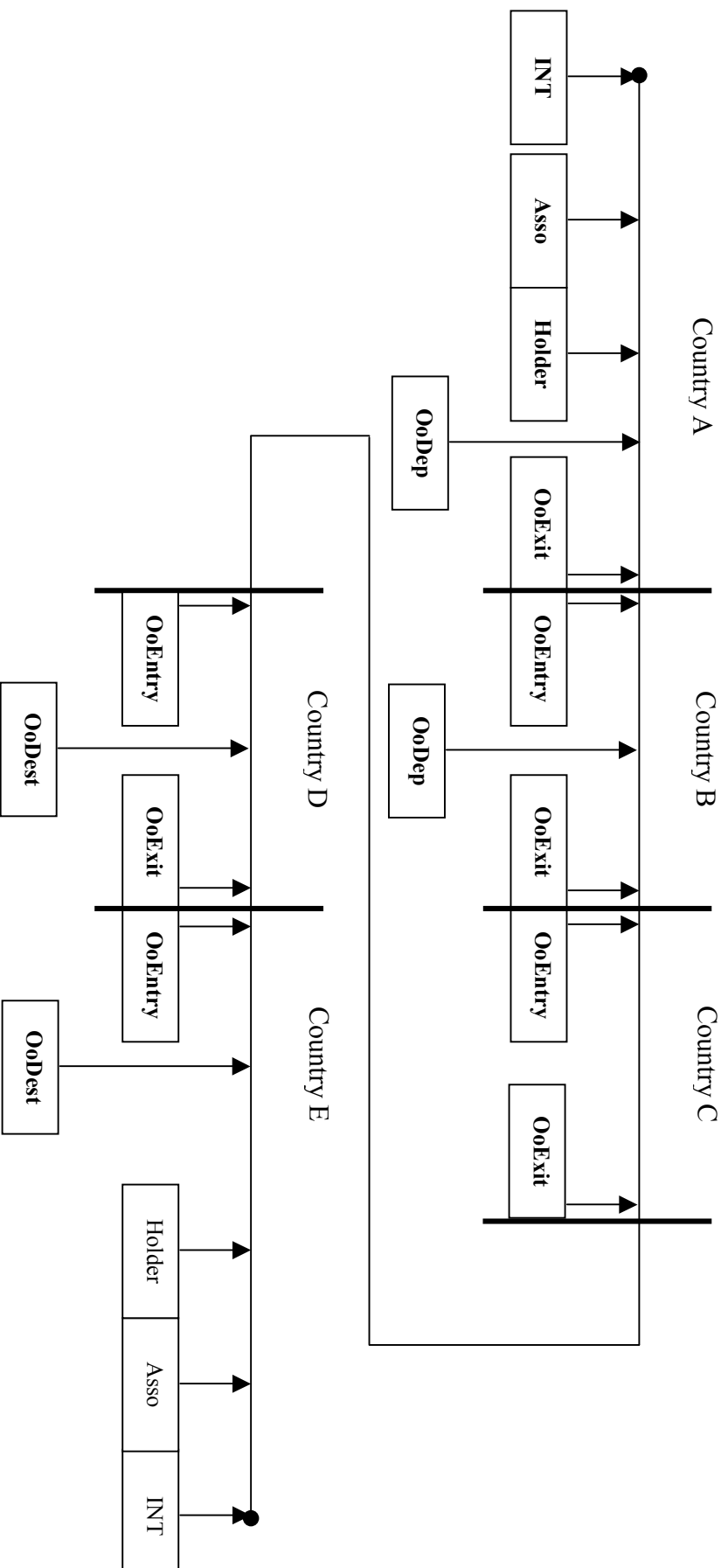
Int = International organization

Asso = National association

OoDep = Office of departure; OoExit = Office of exit en route; OoEntry = Office of entry en route; OoDest = Office of destination

Example 2 : Life cycle of a TIR Carnet involving 4 loading/unloading points

Number of countries of departure:	2
Number of countries of destination:	2
Number of countries of transit:	1
Number of custom offices implied:	12
Number of vouchers:	14



Int = International organization

Asso = National association

OoDep = Office of departure; OoExit = Office of exit en route; OoEntry = Office of entry en route; OoDest = Office of destination