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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical Aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure

Twenty-fourth session

Antalya, 25-26 September 2014

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Reference Model of the TIR procedure:

Contributions of the network of eTIR focal points

Summary of the activities of the network of eTIR focal points

Note by the secretariat

I. Background

1. At its 124th session in February 2010, the Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport (WP.30) supported the secretariat's call to organize activities of the Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on Conceptual and Technical aspects of Computerization of the TIR Procedure (GE.1 or Expert Group) at long distance, by means of a network of focal points for eTIR (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/248, para. 22). At its 125th session, it stressed the importance for every Contracting Party to nominate a focal point for the eTIR project and to inform the secretariat accordingly (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/250, para. 19). This document presents the status of the network of eTIR focal points and summarizes its activities since the twenty-third session of the GE.1.

II. Members of the network of eTIR focal points

2. The following thirty-two Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention have nominated at least one eTIR focal point: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lebanon, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and

Uzbekistan. The e-mail addresses of the focal points are available on the eTIR website (www.unece.org/trans/bcf/etir/focals.html).

III. Information received from the network of eTIR focal points

3. Since the twenty-third session of the Expert Group, eTIR focal points have not communicated to the secretariat any issue or input to be brought to the attention of GE.1.

IV. Queries to the network of eTIR focal points

4. At its twenty-third session, GE.1 requested the secretariat to consult with the network of eTIR focal points on the following issue:

Roles and responsibilities of eTIR focal points

5. On 18 December 2013, the secretariat sent to eTIR focal points the email reproduced in Annex, asking them if they had any comments on Informal document GE.1 No. 8 (2013), a proposal by the secretariat to further define the roles and responsibilities of eTIR focal points.

6. eTIR focal points had no comments on Informal document GE.1 No. 8 (2013). Consequently, the secretariat prepared document ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2014/6 for the 137th session of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30), as requested by the Expert Group.

V. Further considerations

7. GE.1 may wish to take into account the outcomes of the consultations with the network of eTIR focal points as presented in this document.

Annexe

Email sent on 18 December 2013 to eTIR focal points

Subject: NeTIRFP Q.8 - Roles and responsibilities of eTIR focal points

Dear eTIR focal points,

For your information, the report of the 23rd session of the GE.1, which took place on 20 and 21 November 2013 in Brussels at the kind invitation of the European Commission, is now available on the UNECE and eTIR websites (etir.unece.org).

At its 23rd session, the Expert Group The Expert Group welcomed Informal document GE.1 No. 8 (2013), containing a proposal by the secretariat to further define the roles and responsibilities of eTIR focal points. While agreeing with the proposal, the Expert Group asked the secretariat to send the document for comments to eTIR focal points before submitting it to WP.30 for consideration.

You will find attached a copy of Informal document GE.1 No. 8 (2013) for your consideration, and are kindly asked to provide your comments to the secretariat, if any. On the basis of the comments received before 31 January 2013, the secretariat will prepare a revised version of the document for WP.30.

Would you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyful holiday season and all the best for the year to come.

Kind regards,

André
