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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

(One-hundred-and-tenth session, 14 – 17 June 2005,
agenda item 5 (b))

**CUSTOMS CONVENTIONS ON THE TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF PRIVATE
ROAD VEHICLES (1954) AND COMMERCIAL ROAD VEHICLES (1956) ***

Application of the Convention

Draft Resolution on the elimination of fraud and abuse of customs documents

Transmitted by AIT and FIA

The International Touring Alliance (AIT) and International Automobile Association (FIA) would like to submit the attached draft resolution for the consideration of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport.

The purpose of this resolution is to help prevent customs document fraud and abuse, to reinforce the application of the provisions of the 1954 and 1956 Conventions and to encourage regional economic commissions to promote the accession to these Conventions.

* The UNECE Transport Division has submitted the present document after the official documentation deadline due to resource constraints.

The aim of the AIT and FIA is threefold:

- to protect our network of issuing associations from the proliferation of parallel documents – loosely copied from the AIT/FIA CPD
- to protect our network of guaranteeing associations which should not be asked to assume responsibility for documents lacking adequate guarantees
- to protect Governments from customs fraud and abuse.

Incidents have been reported where travellers have been compelled to purchase local customs documents, their valid carnets having been refused. Such situations arise more frequently in countries where the Customs authorities are decentralized, rendering border posts more open to abuse. Accession to the Conventions would help to eliminate these problems.

The Conventions constitute a set of procedures, guidelines and deadlines that must be applied as a whole. A Contracting Party may not, for example, ignore certain provisions and accept others. In the AIT and FIA CPD network, there are Governments which apply de facto the carnet system. These governments should be encouraged to accede to the Conventions; the UN regional commissions may help in promoting accession.

Draft resolution attached in Annex (English and French)

Annex

**APPLICATION OF THE CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY
IMPORTATION OF PRIVATE ROAD VEHICLES (1954) AND THE CUSTOMS
CONVENTION ON THE TEMPORARY IMPORTATION OF COMMERCIAL ROAD
VEHICLES (1956)**

Draft resolution

The Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport,

Being concerned with eliminating fraud and the abusive use of customs documents for the temporary importation of private or commercial vehicles,

Underlining the fact that the system established under the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles (1954) and the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (1956) constitutes a well-functioning whole of guidelines and procedures that must be fully applied and respected by those Governments which have acceded to these Conventions and by those Governments which *de facto* apply them,

Recommending to Governments that the issue of temporary importation papers should be entrusted only to associations that are nationally recognized and are affiliated to an international organization, as defined in these Conventions, offering adequate guarantees,

Invites the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, by reason of the global character of the customs system in question, and by reason of the interest to member countries of the Economic Commission for Europe in the border facilitation means that this system offers, to bring the matter to the attention of the other regional economic commissions of the United Nations with the aim of promoting the correct application of the Conventions and the accession to them.

**CONVENTIONS DOUANIÈRES RELATIVES À L'IMPORTATION TEMPORAIRE
DES VÉHICULES ROUTIERS PRIVÉS (1954) ET DES VÉHICULES ROUTIERS
COMMERCIAUX (1956)**

Projet de résolution

Le Groupe de travail des problèmes douaniers intéressant les transports,

Soucieux d'éliminer la fraude et les abus qui peuvent être commis à l'aide des documents douaniers d'importation temporaire des véhicules privés et commerciaux,

Soulignant que le système mis en place soit par la Convention douanière relative à l'importation temporaire des véhicules routiers privés (1954), soit par la Convention douanière relative à l'importation temporaire des véhicules routiers commerciaux (1956) constitue un tout et doit être appliqué dans son ensemble par les gouvernements ayant adhéré aux dites Conventions et par les gouvernements qui les appliquent *de facto*,

Recommandant aux gouvernements de veiller à ce que la délivrance des titres d'importation temporaire ne soit confiée qu'à des associations agréées sur le plan national et affiliées à une organisation présentant des garanties suffisantes et reconnue sur le plan international,

Invite le Secrétaire exécutif de la Commission économique pour l'Europe, en raison du caractère mondial du système douanier en question, et en raison de l'intérêt que présentent pour les pays membres de la Commission économique pour l'Europe les facilités que ce système comporte, à saisir les autres commissions économiques des Nations Unies de cette question, en vue de favoriser l'adhésion à ces Conventions et leur bonne application.
