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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport
(One-hundred-and-eighth session, 11-15 October 2004,
agenda item 6 (b) (ii))

**CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT
OF GOODS UNDER COVER OF TIR CARNETS (TIR CONVENTION 1975)**

Revision of the Convention

Preparation of Phase III of the TIR revision process

Revision of the TIR Carnet

Draft recommendation for the introduction of the HS code into the goods manifest

Note by the secretariat

1. At its one-hundred-and-seventh session, the Working Party held an in-depth discussion about the possible changes to the data to be given in the TIR Carnet. The Working Party felt that it would be useful to recommend to include the HS code in the goods description. The secretariat was requested to prepare a proposal for a Recommendation for inclusion of the HS code in the goods description in the TIR Carnet for the next session of the Working Party.
2. Following the above request, the secretariat has prepared a draft recommendation (annex). The Working Party may wish to consider the draft with a view to transmitting it to the TIR Administrative Committee for further consideration and possible adoption.

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Annex

INTRODUCTION OF THE HS CODE OF GOODS IN THE TIR CARNET

**Recommendation adopted by the
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975,
on ...**

The Administrative Committee,

Stressing the need for the effective implementation of risk management and risk assessment measures with regard to goods in transit;

Recognizing the importance of identifying those goods that may pose a security risk and of facilitating the movement of other goods;

Convinced that, in addition to a plain language description of the goods, the use of the commodity code in accordance with the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (so-called HS code) will contribute to this objective;

Bearing in mind that very often a TIR transport is preceded by the exportation procedure, during which an export declaration containing the HS code of the goods is lodged;

Considering also that the inclusion of the HS code into the TIR Carnet will also facilitate electronic data processing;

Recognizing that relevant amendments to the TIR Convention envisaged to be prepared under Phase III of the TIR revision process may take some time to enter into force;

1. Decides to recommend TIR Carnet holders or any other persons filling the TIR Carnet on their behalf to indicate the HS code of the goods under box 10 of the goods manifest of all vouchers of the TIR Carnet, in addition to a plain language description of the goods;
2. Urges Customs authorities at the Customs office of departure to verify the insertion of the HS code into the TIR Carnet and, if possible, to check it against the export Customs declaration.

The absence of the HS code of the goods in the TIR Carnet shall not lead to delays during a TIR transport and shall not be an obstacle to the acceptance of TIR Carnets.

The present Recommendation will come into effect on ... and will be superseded by relevant amendments to the TIR Convention upon their entry into force.
