



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
RESTRICTED

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/2007/  
Informal document No. 2  
17 January 2007

ENGLISH  
Original: ENGLISH and  
RUSSIAN

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

One-hundred-and-fifteenth session  
Geneva, 30 January – 2 February 2007  
Item 9 (c) (v) of the provisional agenda

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

Application of the Convention

Other matters

Submitted by the Executive Committee of the CIS Transport Coordination Meeting

Mr. M.Belka  
UN ECE  
Executive Secretary

Mr. Executive Secretary,

By this letter we are bringing to your notice that, on October 26 2006 the XXVI session of the Transport Coordination Meeting – the highest collective CIS body for the transport cooperation – was held in Moscow, which considered functioning of the TIR system.

In the course of deliberations it was noted that in the last 60 years the TIR System proved to be an effective instrument for the promotion of trade, transport, and international economic ties in general. The statistics for the last few years show decisively the ever growing role of the TIR System in the carriage of cargoes between the Western Europe and the CIS member-countries.

In this connection, the participants of the session welcomed the measures adopted by the International Road Transport Union, and by the CIS member-countries' customs administrations, and, primarily, by that of the Russian Federation, in implementing the very important projects for the TIR users, including the development of the SafeTIR and the special project "Real Time SafeTIR" developed jointly with the Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation.

It was noted at the same time that in recent years the TIR System had become a target for some unscrupulous users. That created certain difficulties and problems in a number of European countries and, it seems to us, served as a pretext for unfounded criticism of the TIR Convention and of the IRU at large being the UN mandated body for its implementation. Moreover, there were attempts to substitute the basic principles of the TIR Convention, which, if these attempts were to be realized, would call into question the future functioning of the Convention.

In this connection, a number of international road carriers associations of the CIS countries requested that the CIS TCM Executive Committee examine during the next regular CIS Transport Ministers meeting functioning of the TIR System and adopt an appropriate decision.

After a comprehensive discussion of the prevailing situation the CIS TCM meeting adopted a decision attached to this letter.

The IRU Moscow Office informed the CIS TCM Executive Committee that the question was examined by the IRU General Assembly at its meeting on November 10 last.

The resolution reflecting the opinion of the international road carriers was adopted unanimously; and, of course, you have already been informed of it.

Given the importance of this issue, and in the implementation of the decision adopted, I would like to request you to transmit the text of this letter, as well as the attached TCM Decision, to the UN ECE members, who are

Parties to the TIR Convention, and distribute it as an official document at regular meetings of the UN ECE working bodies.

Sincerely,

Ch. Izmajlov

Attachment: 1 page.

**XXVI meeting of the CTC CIS  
Moscow  
26-th of October, 2006  
Protocol resolution on  
Question 5 of the agenda**

**Agenda point: Concerning the Functioning of the TIR System**

1. To make note of the fact that thanks to the active cooperation between the public and private business sectors the TIR Convention continues to develop dynamically, and it is extremely important to maintain it intact.
2. To approve the measures taken by the International Road Transport Union to strengthen the functioning of the 1975 TIR Convention and facilitate the development of road transport in order to provide for international trade between numerous market participants of the CIS countries and the European Union.
3. To instruct the CTC CIS Executive Committee to address UN international organizations, above all, the UN Economic Commission for Europe, with a request to support measures for preservation and further development of the TIR system that has contributed considerably to the development of mutually beneficial trade relations between various countries.
4. Representatives of the CIS countries in the area of transport| when participating in the measures taken by the UNECE should take effective steps aimed to preserve the existing TIR system that serves the interests of the CIS international road transport carriers.