Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage (ATP)

Session IV: Safety, security and environmental concerns of integrated intermodal transport and logistics
Objectives: Improve conditions of preservation of quality of perishable foodstuffs during carriage, particularly in international trade and promote the expansion of trade in perishable foodstuffs.

Unwritten objectives: Protecting food safety and preventing threats to human health from unsafe food.
Main requirements:

1. Insulating capacity of equipment (lorries, trailers, tankers for liquid foodstuffs, containers, wagons/freight cars, etc.),
2. Effectiveness of thermal appliances,
3. Test requirements to check compliance.
4. Equipment divided into classes according to:
   - means of cooling, refrigerator or a eutectic plate,
   - simple or reinforced insulation, what transport temperatures the equipment is suitable for.
• The ATP is open to all UN Member States.
• Expressions of interest from as far afield as Japan, South Korea and China.
• There is also potential for new members in the Middle East and in the Gulf States.
ATP applies if the point at which the goods are loaded and unloaded are in two different States and the point at which they are unloaded is situated in the territory of a Contracting Party.

ATP applies even if the State where the goods are loaded is not a Contracting Party.

There are three main benefits for countries applying the ATP, not only for international transport, but also nationally:

1. Enhanced facilitation of transport of perishable goods;
2. Safer food with less negative impact on human health;
3. Less waste due to better food preservation.
Thank you!

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