

Agenda item 4.4 - Identification, isolation and elimination of major bottlenecks along international transport routes

23rd Session of SPECA TWG-STTC
Astana, 27-28 August 2018

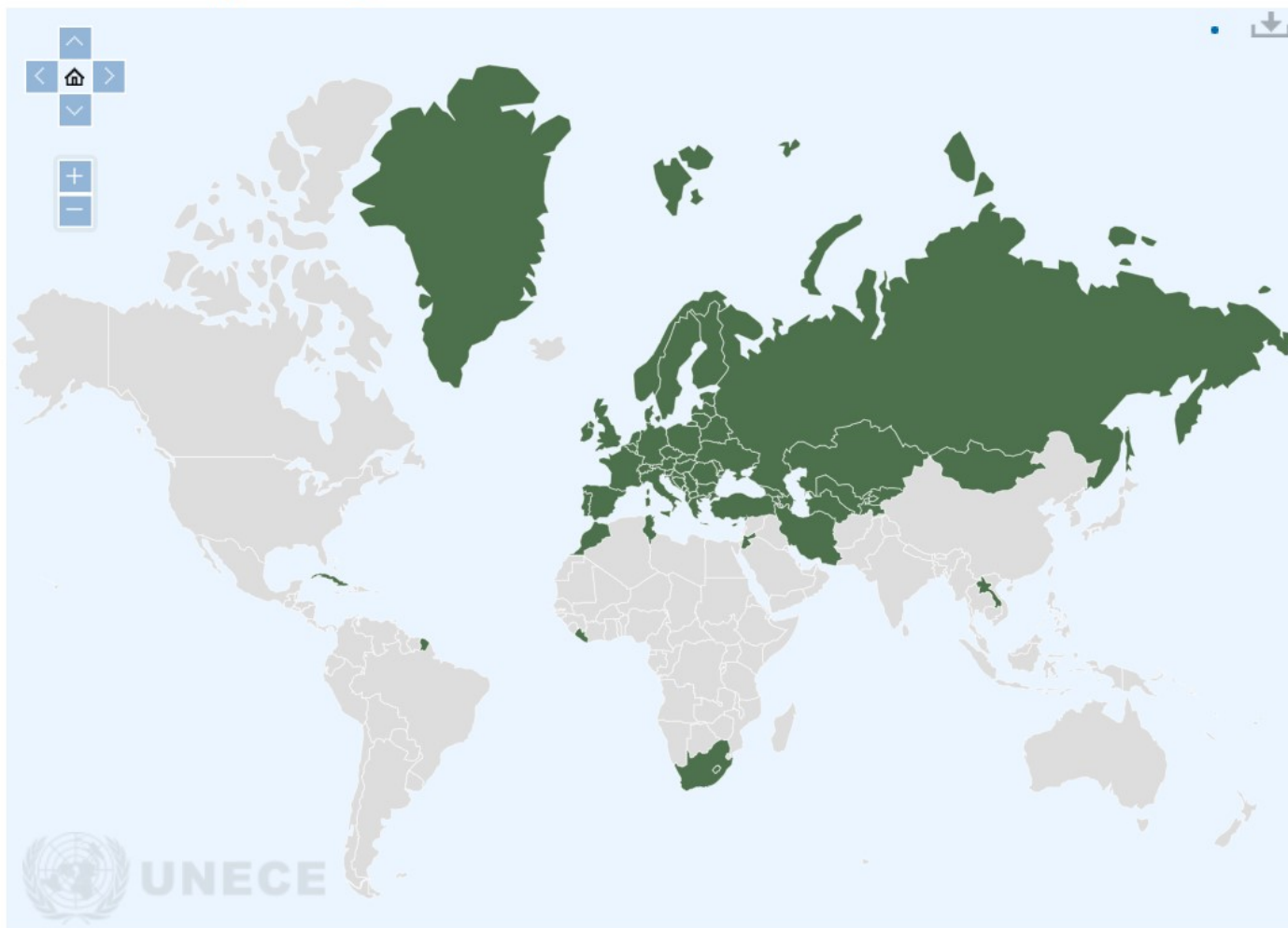
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UNECE

Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)

UN Transport Agreements and Conventions



International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, 21 October 1982

Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)

- 58 Contracting parties, all SPECA countries except Afghanistan – Turkmenistan acceded on 27/11/2016
- Work on Annex 9 on rail border crossing to the Harmonization Convention entered into force on 30 November 2011 – key principles for facilitation of border crossing procedures for international rail freight continued in 2017
- WP.30 continued the development of Annex 10 to address facilitation of maritime port procedures. However in 2017 the WP decided to remove this item from its agenda.

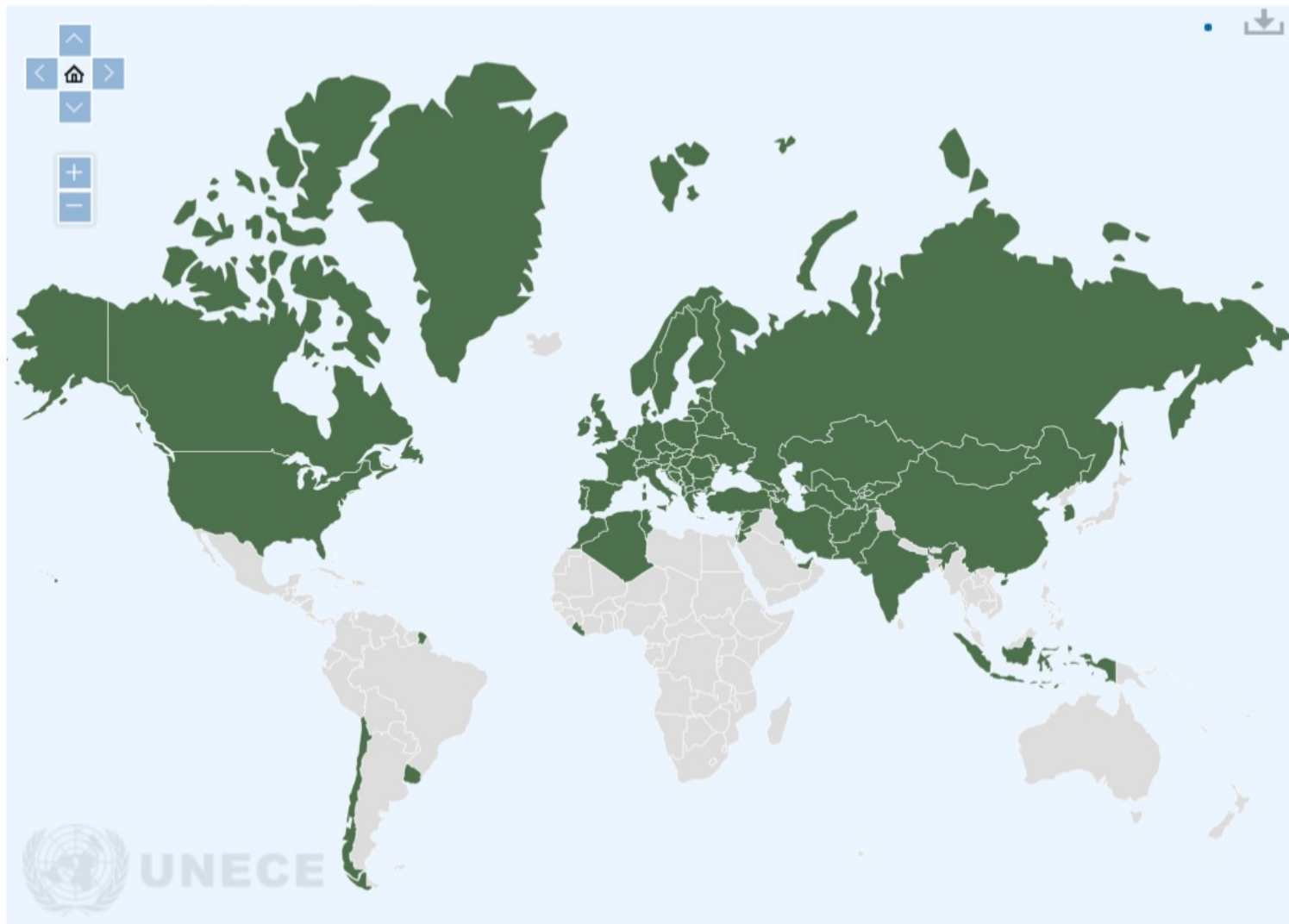


New Convention on rail border crossings for passengers and their luggage

- Draft discussed further within WP.30 and SC.2 over the course of 2017 and 2018.
- Particular interest in OSJD countries. The EU has stated that it is not likely that its member States will accede to the Convention.
- A number of member States have provided comments while others have mentioned that they are ready to support the new Convention.
- Further work continues on the finalization of the Convention.



TIR Convention (1975)



Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), of 14 November 1975

TIR Convention (1975)

Objectives

- Border crossing facilitation through an internationally recognized and harmonized procedure
- Effective revenue protection and security without excessive administrative burden for customs and time/cost losses for operators

Governing Bodies

- Administrative Committee (AC.2)
- TIR Executive Board
- TIR Secretary
- TIR Secretariat



TIR Convention (1975) - 1

- 74 Contracting Parties, accession of State of Palestine, Qatar and Saudi Arabia
- New Group of Experts on the Legal Aspects of the computerization of the TIR procedure concluded its mandate (October 2017) – a new optional TIR Annex
- eTIR Pilot Project between Turkey and Iran launched in November 2015, successfully concluded in February 2017
- Second eTIR project between Georgia and Turkey started in January 2016 (partly financed within C2C UNDA project) – the Central Exchange Platform now fully operational

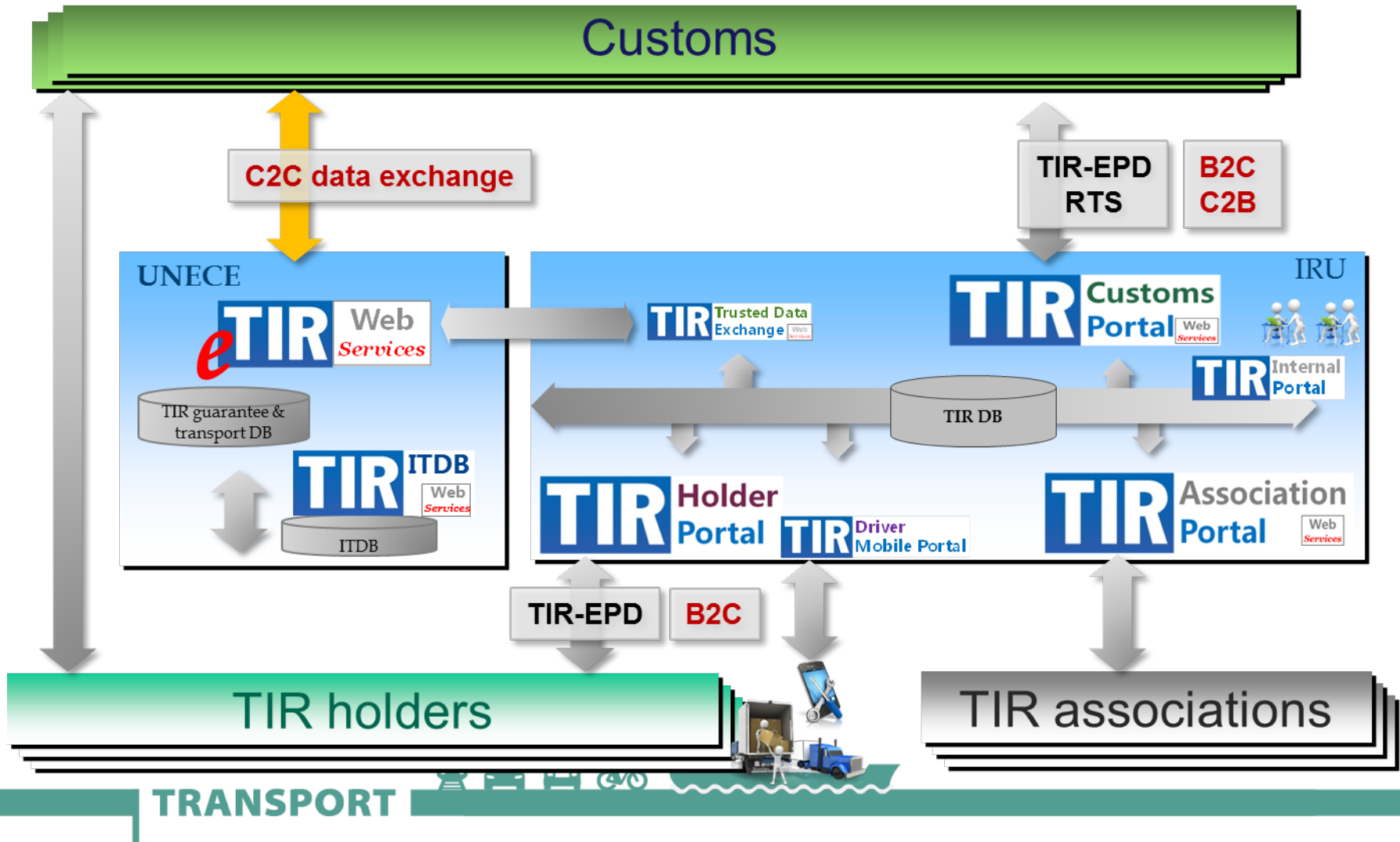


TIR Convention (1975) - 2

- 74 Contracting Parties, accession of State of Palestine, Qatar and Saudi Arabia
- Key amendment proposals agreed:
 - Increase in the recommended max amount to be claimed from the guaranteeing association to €100,000
 - The introduction of reinforced possibilities to examine the audited financial statements submitted annually.
 - Amended requirements for the international organization with regard to record keeping & engaging an independent external audit.
 - The insertion of the term “customs” before “frontier” in Article 2, clarifying that the TIR Convention is applicable when at least one customs border is crossed.



eTIR high-level architecture



eTIR development – the next steps

- New UNECE-IRU eTIR MoU - October 2017
- Aim is to devise and launch new projects to further explore all aspects related to the computerization of the TIR procedure.
- A new intermodal pilot project: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine is currently being considered.



Thank you for your attention

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