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Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Seventy-fourth session

Geneva, 11 February 2021

Item 4 (a) (ii) of the provisional agenda

Activities and administration of the TIR executive board (TIRExB):

Election of members of the TIR Executive Board

Election of members of the TIR Executive Board

Note by the secretariat

A. Nomination of candidates

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention and on the basis of the decisions taken by the Administrative Committee at its seventy-third (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/149, paras. 8–10), the UNECE secretariat is soliciting herewith candidates willing to stand for election as members of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB). The nine members of the TIRExB are expected to be elected by the Administrative Committee at its seventy-fourth session (Geneva, 11 February 2021), by a majority of the Contracting States present and voting. Details about the exact conduct of the election will be transmitted at a later stage. In any case, please be advised that only duly registered delegations having confirmed their presence during the roll call at the start of the hybrid session will be eligible to take part in the election.

2. The name and present function of the candidate a Government may wish to nominate, together with a short description of his/her duties and qualifications, should be received by the ECE secretariat at the latest on 15 December 2020 (0.00 hours Geneva time) per email only (Attention: Mr. Konstantinos Alexopoulos, Office 402-4, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10; e-mail: konstantinos.alexopoulos@un.org).

B. Circulation of list of candidates

3. Following receipt of the names of candidates, the UNECE secretariat will circulate, on 16 December 2020, a list of all nominated candidates to the Contracting Parties to the Convention. In accordance with the decision of the Administrative Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/59, para. 26), no further candidates may be nominated following the issuance of this list by the UNECE secretariat. It is understood, however, that candidates may be withdrawn following the circulation of the list of nominated candidates.

4. In this context, the Contracting Parties to the Convention may wish to note that the TIRExB shall be composed of nine members, each from different Contracting Parties to the Convention. The term of office of each member of the TIR Executive Board shall be two years. The members of the TIR Executive Board may be re-elected (Annex 8, Article 9 of the Convention). In accordance with Explanatory Note 8.13.1-2 of the Convention, the work of the members of the TIRExB is financed by their respective Governments.

C. Criteria for nomination of candidates and election procedure

I. Criteria for the nomination of candidates for the TIRExB

5. The criteria for the nomination of candidates for the TIREB, adopted by the Administrative Committee at its twenty-ninth session (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/59, paras. 24–27) as stipulated by Explanatory Note 8.9.1 (entry into force: 1 January 2015), are as follows:

8.9.1 The members of the TIR Executive Board shall be competent and experienced in the application of customs procedures, particularly the TIR transit procedure, both at national and international levels. Board members shall be nominated by their respective Governments or organizations being Contracting Parties to the Convention. They shall represent the interests of the Contracting Parties to the Convention and not the specific interests of any one individual Government or organization (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/117, para. 29).

II. Procedure for the election of candidates for the TIRExB

6. The election procedure, adopted by the Administrative Committee at its twenty-ninth session (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/59, paras. 24–27) and as amended at its fifty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/121, para. 25), is as follows:

(a) Election shall be decided by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Committee decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate. In such a case, each Contracting State will have as many votes as there are available posts. There will be no election by acclamation in case the number of nominated candidates equals the number of available posts. An accumulation of votes on any one candidate is not permissible (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 31, and ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/121, para. 25).

(b) Candidates who have obtained a majority of votes are elected. In case the majority of votes has been obtained by more candidates than there are posts available, the candidates with the highest number of votes are elected (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 31).

(c) The TIR Secretary and his staff will arrange for the election procedure and the counting of votes (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 31).

(d) The number of votes obtained by the nominated candidates during the election will not be disclosed (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, para. 34).

7. In accordance with the procedure adopted by the Administrative Committee in February 1999, on the occasion of the initial election of members of the TIRExB, nominated candidates may wish to introduce themselves briefly before the election procedure to the delegations of the Contracting Parties present at the session of the Administrative Committee.