



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Eightieth session

Geneva, 9 June 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the eightieth session^{*,}**

to be held in-person at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday 9 June 2023, starting at 10 a.m. and finishing before 12.a.m (after which the 163rd session of the Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport will resume until 1 p.m.), Room VII.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Status of the TIR Convention, 1975.
3. Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board:
 - Activities of the TIR Executive Board:
 - Election of members of the TIR Executive Board;
4. Other business:
 - (a) Date of next session;
 - (b) Restriction on the distribution of documents;
5. Adoption of the report.

* For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. There will be no official documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, missing documents may be obtained directly from the ECE Sustainable Transport Division (Fax: +41-22-917-0039; email: wp.30@un.org). Documents may also be downloaded from the ECE Border Crossing Facilitation website www.unece.org/trans/bcf/welcome.html.

** The full text of the TIR Convention, 1975, as well as a complete list of contracting parties to the TIR Convention, are available on the ECE website: www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html#customs.

All delegates (including those holding a long-duration badge) are requested to register online (<https://indico.un.org/event/1005026/>). Delegates that do not hold a valid long-duration badge must obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the ECE secretariat (internal extension 75975). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Committee may wish to consider and adopt the agenda of the session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/162). The Committee will be informed that, according to Annex 8, Article 6 of the TIR Convention, 1975, "a quorum consisting of not less than one-third of the States which are contracting parties is required for the purpose of taking decisions". The number of States which are contracting parties to the convention is seventy-six. Thus, a quorum of, at least, twenty-six States is required for the session to take any decision.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/162

2. Status of the TIR Convention, 1975

The Committee will be informed about changes in the status of the Convention and in the number of contracting parties. In particular, the Committee may wish to note that, on 27 March 2023, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, has issued the following depositary notification: C.N.92.2023.TREATIES-XI.A.16, informing that, on 27 March 2023, Iraq has deposited its instruments of accession to the TIR Convention, 1975. In accordance with its Article 53, paragraph 2, the Convention will enter into force for Iraq on 27 September 2023. With the accession of Iraq, the TIR Convention will have seventy-eight contracting parties. Since the activation of the system for Qatar, TIR operations can be established with sixty-five countries. Detailed information on this issue as well as on depositary notifications is available on the TIR website.¹

3. Activities and administration of the TIR Executive Board

Activities of the TIR Executive Board

Election of members of the TIR Executive Board

The Committee may wish to recall that, at its previous session (February 2023), in accordance with the approved election procedure and on the basis of the list of nominated candidates, the following seven persons obtained a majority of votes of the contracting states present and voting and were elected as members of the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) for a term of office of two years (in English alphabetical order of their last names):

Mr. Mostafa AYATI (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Mr. Marco CIAMPI (Italy)

Mr. Elyor KHAKIMOV (Uzbekistan)

Mr. Pierre-Jean LABORIE (European Commission)

Mr. Hugo Richard MAYER (Austria)

Mr. Anil ŞENMANAV (Türkiye)

Ms. Caroline ZUIDGEEST (Netherlands)

The Committee recalled that the members of TIRExB were elected in their personal capacity, with the mandate to work towards the sustainability of the TIR procedure. The Committee also stressed that the respective Governments should finance the work of their members of TIRExB (Explanatory Note 8.13.1–2 of the Convention) and should ensure their participation in all sessions of the Board (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/161, paragraphs 5–8)

¹ www.unece.org/tir/tir-depositary_notification.html.

The Committee further may wish to recall that, in order to fill the two remaining positions, it decided to hold another round of elections at an additional session, to be held in the week of 5–9 June 2023, subject to confirmation and mandated the secretariat to make the necessary arrangement to accommodate the session. To that end, the Committee recalled Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2023) No. 1, containing the approved election procedure and soliciting candidates willing to stand for election of the two remaining posts as members of TIRExB for the term 2023–2024, which would be revised accordingly and re-issued by the secretariat. The secretariat informed the Committee that the call for candidates would be circulated, as in the past, via email² to all heads of customs administrations of contracting parties, delegates of AC.2, TIR focal points and to the permanent missions of contracting parties to the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG). The deadline by which nominations would need to be received by the ECE secretariat was 28 March 2023, midnight CET. No further candidates may be nominated following expiry of this deadline. On 30 March 2023, the ECE secretariat would circulate a list of candidates who have been nominated by their respective governments or organizations, being contracting parties to the Convention (See ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/161/paragraph 9).

Against this background, the Committee may wish to recall that, in accordance with Annex 8, Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Convention, the term of office of each member of TIRExB shall be two years. The Committee, at its seventy-eighth session (October 2022), decided to follow the established procedure for the election at the current session on the basis of the following provisions:

(a) the comment adopted on 26 June 1998 to the Rules of Procedure of TIRExB on “representation”, with the exception of paragraph (c) as its provisions relate only to the initial election of Board members and are, thus, no longer appropriate (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/51, Annex and Corr.1);

(b) the procedure for the election of members of TIRExB, adopted on 26 February 2000 by the Committee (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/53, paras. 31 and 34). In addition, for the sake of transparency, the Committee decided, at its seventy-fourth session (October 2016), to apply Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), which stipulates that “all elections shall be decided by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Commission decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate”, even in the case the number of nominated candidates equals the number of available posts (see ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/131, para. 12).

The procedure for the nomination and election are in Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2023) No. 1/Rev.1. Restricted Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2023) No. 7 (for Government officials only), contains the curriculums vitae (C.V.) of the nominated candidates, and will be available at the secretariat upon request.

The Committee is invited to proceed with the election or re-election of two members of TIRExB, in accordance with established practice.

Documentation

Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2023) No. 1/Rev.1; Informal document WP.30/AC.2 No. 7 (restricted)

4. Other business

(a) Date of next session

The ECE secretariat has made tentative arrangements to hold the eighty-first session of the Committee on Wednesday 11 October 2023, subject to potential adjustments due to the ongoing United Nations liquidity crisis.

² Email was sent out on 15 February 2023.

(b) Restriction on the distribution of documents

The Committee may wish to decide whether there should be any restriction on the distribution of documents issued in connection with its current session. In this context, the Committee may wish to recall that Informal document WP.30/AC.2 (2023) No. 7 has been issued as restricted document (for Government officials only).

5. Adoption of the report

In accordance with Annex 8, Article 7 of the Convention, the Committee will adopt the report of its seventy-ninth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.
