



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2001/12
8 August 2001

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975
(Thirty-first session, 25 and 26 October 2001,
agenda item 3 (a) (v))

ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE TIR EXECUTIVE BOARD (TIRExB)

Activities of the TIRExB

Approved Customs offices for TIR operations:
Results of a survey among Contracting Parties

Note by the TIR Secretary

1. The TIRExB, at its first session (26 March 1999), has decided to study possible ways and means for the establishment and maintenance of an international databank on approved Customs offices for accomplishing TIR operations (Customs offices of departure, Customs offices en route, Customs offices of destination) that would be available on-line for all interested parties, as prescribed by the Terms of Reference of the TIRExB.
2. The Board also took note that, in line with Article 45 of the Convention, publication of a list of the above Customs offices is an obligation of each Contracting Party. In this regard the TIR Secretary was requested to survey all Contracting Parties with a view to obtaining information on the availability of such lists and their delivery platforms (paper, database, web site, etc.).

3. Following this request, the TIR Secretary has distributed a questionnaire among Contracting Parties with which a TIR operation can be established. The detailed replies to the survey are given in the annex to this document and are summarized below.

4. 30 out of 49 Contracting Parties have replied to the questionnaire. Furthermore, information on 4 other countries has become available to the TIR Secretary from different sources, bringing the number of Contracting Parties covered to 34.

5. 17 countries (50 %) either have already put or are about to put lists of approved Customs offices on the Internet. 11 countries (32 %) keep their lists on paper only. Some Contracting Parties acknowledged that they had never published such lists.

6. Many countries, instead of replying to the questionnaire as such, have simply sent to the TIR Secretary corresponding lists on paper or on diskettes. This seems to indicate that these Contracting Parties are looking forward to assistance from the TIRExB and TIR secretariat in maintaining and publishing a respective international databank as, in accordance with Annex 8, Article 10 of the Convention, the TIRExB shall coordinate and foster the exchange of information between competent authorities of Contracting Parties, associations and international organizations.

7. Taking into consideration these survey results, the TIRExB proposes, as a first step, to establish a web page providing links to the relevant web sites of all those countries that are already maintaining listings of approved Customs offices. As a second step, the TIR secretariat will incorporate into this web page information on approved Customs offices available with the TIR secretariat (on paper or in electronic form) on the basis of a standard layout. This layout could contain, for example, the following data elements:

- (0) Name of a Customs office;
- (1) Code according to the national system of classification;
- (2) Type of the Customs office (e.g. departure and/or destination and/or en route);
- (3) Border (for Customs offices en route, e.g. Belarus/Poland);
- (4) Address including relevant road and/or corridor numbers, if any (E-45, etc.);
- (5) Telephone number, fax number and e-mail address;
- (6) Opening days and hours, public holidays (if any);
- (7) Other control facilities (veterinary, phytosanitary, etc.) and their opening hours;
- (8) Supplementary facilities;
- (9) Other comments.

8. Finally, the layout of the database as well as the procedure for its updating would need to be established. It should be noted in this context that transmission of any information on approved Customs offices is not stipulated in the Convention and thus would be optional for Contracting Parties. For this reason, it might be difficult to achieve strict conformity with any proposed data format.

9. The TIR Administrative Committee may wish to take a decision on the issue and give guidelines to the TIRExB and TIR Secretary with regard to the establishment and maintenance of an international databank on approved Customs offices for accomplishing TIR operations.

Annex

Country	Reply received	Most advanced form in which a list of Customs offices is available	Comments
Albania	yes	paper	
Austria	yes	website	in German
Azerbaijan	no		
Belarus	no	file	
Belgium	yes	website	
Bulgaria	yes	file, website soon	
Croatia	yes	file, website soon	
Cyprus	yes	paper	only 3 offices
Czech Republic	yes	website	in Czech
Denmark	yes	file, website soon	
Estonia	yes	website	
Finland	no		
France	yes	paper, file soon	
Georgia	no		
Germany	yes	file	
Greece	yes	paper	
Hungary	yes	file, website soon	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	no		
Ireland	no		
Israel	no		
Italy	yes	file	
Jordan	no		
Kazakhstan	no	file	
Kuwait	no		
Kyrgyzstan	no	paper	
Latvia	yes	website	in Latvian
Lebanon	no		
Lithuania	yes	website	
Luxembourg	no		
Morocco	no		
Netherlands	yes	website	
Norway	yes	website	in Norwegian
Poland	yes	file, website soon	

Country	Reply received	Most advanced form in which a list of Customs offices is available	Comments
Portugal	yes	paper	
Republic of Moldova	no		
Romania	yes	paper	
Russian Federation	no	file	
Slovakia	yes	paper	
Slovenia	no		
Spain	no		
Sweden	yes	website	
Switzerland	yes	paper	
Syrian Arab Republic	yes	paper	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	yes	paper, website soon	
Tunisia	no		
Turkey	yes	file, website soon	
Ukraine	yes	website	access upon registration, website partially in Ukrainian
United Kingdom	yes	file	
Uzbekistan	yes	paper	