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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions

affecting Transport

(One-hundredth session, 12-15 February 2002,
agenda item 7 (b) (ii))

**CUSTOMS CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT
OF GOODS UNDER COVER OF TIR CARNETS (TIR CONVENTION 1975)**

Revision of the Convention

**Informal ad hoc expert group on the Conceptual and technical aspects of the
Computerization of the TIR procedure**

Terms of Reference

Note by the secretariat

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE TWO INFORMAL AD HOC EXPERT GROUPS
ON THE COMPUTERIZATION OF THE TIR PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED
BY THE UNECE WORKING PARTY ON CUSTOMS QUESTIONS
AFFECTING TRANSPORT AT ITS NINETY-NINTH SESSION**

The Terms of Reference have been formulated in accordance with the decisions adopted by the UNECE Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) at its ninety-ninth session (23-26 October 2001 in Geneva). The Terms of Reference have been established by the UNECE secretariat and the Chairperson of the ad hoc Expert Group on the computerization of the TIR procedure, Mr. J. Ille (Czech Republic).

The two informal ad hoc Expert Groups shall be composed of experts designated by Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention, 1975. Non-governmental organizations, such as the IRU, as well as experts from national associations may participate at the meetings of the informal ad-hoc Expert Groups.

A. Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on the conceptual and technical aspects of the computerization of the TIR Convention.

The informal conceptual and technical ad hoc Expert Group shall:

1. list and analyze the data elements required for the operation of a TIR transport at the national and international level, as stipulated in the TIR Convention as well as in resolutions and recommendations, adopted by the Administrative Committee (in particular Annexes 1, 4 and 9 of the TIR Convention) and make an inventory of possible new features to be included into the electronic version of the TIR Carnet. On that basis, the group shall draw up flow charts, reflecting the actual and future flow of data in the TIR procedure between the various actors involved in and at the various stages of the TIR procedure. Within the context of its work, the group shall also study the use of standardized codes, ensuring a uniform understanding and interpretation of the data elements in the TIR Carnet.
2. list and analyze the existing information and telecommunication systems and study to what extent the experiences gained at the national and international level can be included in the development of a computerized TIR procedure.
3. come up with technical solutions with regard to the computerization of the TIR procedure, reflecting the results of the work under 1 and 2 and taking account of the financial implications they might have on the national and international level.

B. Informal Ad hoc Expert Group on the legal aspects of the Computerization of the TIR Convention.

The informal legal ad hoc Expert Group shall:

1. study in detail the impact of the various approaches of the computerization process on the existing legal provisions of the TIR Convention as well as the repercussions it could have on national administrative procedures.
2. draft a description of the role the various actors (in particular: national association, international organization, insurers and TIRExB) could play in the TIR Convention, once the paper based system would be complemented and/or replaced by a system functioning on the basis of the electronic interchange of information.

The two informal ad hoc Expert Groups should report to the Working Party on the progress of their work.

At the completion of its work, each ad hoc Expert Group should draw up a working document, containing concrete proposals for further action, to be discussed and approved by the Working Party.

The two informal ad hoc Expert Groups will be convened by the UNECE secretariat and shall meet as required. The UNECE secretariat will provide secretarial assistance to the two groups.
