



TIR transit

[Transit Internationaleaux Routiers]

UN/ECE TIR CONVENTION
1975

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Objectives of effective Customs Transit systems

- Facilitate trade
- Facilitate transportation
- Reduction of frontier controls
- Provide Customs control
- Provide Customs security/guarantee
- Accommodate different means of transport

Advantages for Transport & Commerce

- Cost efficiency
- Minimum Customs interference
- Reduces delays
- Facilitates international trade
- Develops international trade

Elements of the TIR system

- Secure load compartments [Approvals]
- International guarantee for whole journey
- Single international Customs document [TIR carnet]
- Acceptance of Customs controls applied by other Contracting parties
- Controlled access to the system of
 - National associations
 - Transport operators

International Road Transport Union [IRU]

- Non governmental organisation
- Represents road hauliers
- National associations affiliated
- Manages the system in a commercial sense
- Prints and issues carnets
- Manages the guarantee chain

TIR Convention 1975

- Developed following small post WW II schemes in Europe
 - -resulted in 1959 version
- Basis of similar systems in other parts of the world
- Developed to accommodate new forms of transport
- Achieved by continuous review



1994 TIR Review

- Explosion of East-West-East traffic
- Exploitation of Transit systems including EU system
- Major review[s] of systems

TIR Review results [1]

- IRU short term measures
 - introduction by IRU of SAFETIR
 - Withdrawal of guarantees in EU for 'sensitive' goods

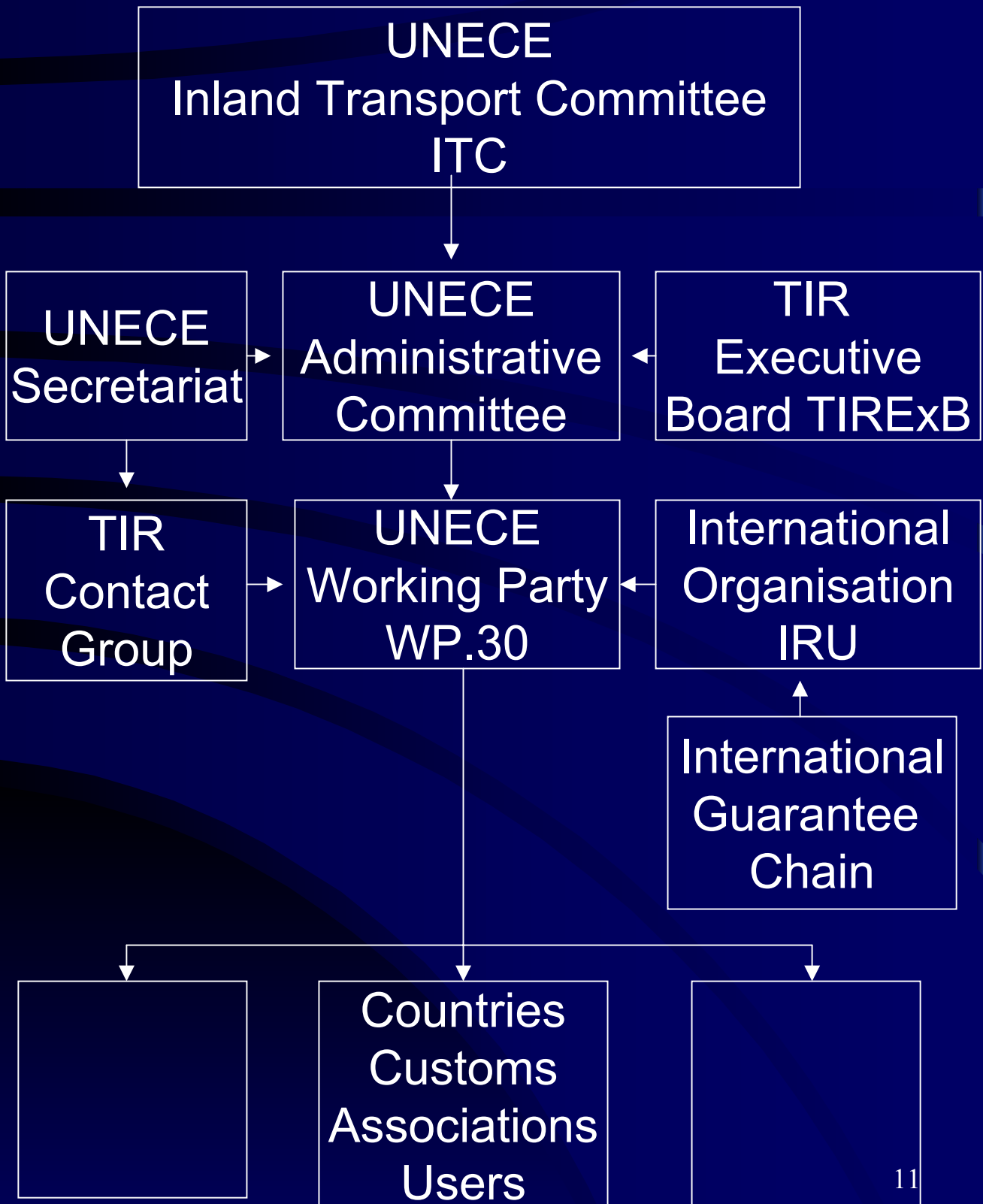
TIR Review results [2]

- UNECE major review
- Phase I - 17 February 1979
 - Controlled access of Issuing associations
 - Controlled access of operators
 - Transparency of the guarantee arrangements
 - Establishment of the TIRExB

TIR Review results [3]

- Phase II - 12 May 2002
 - Establishes legal responsibilities of all parties
 - Clarifies International Organisation's responsibility for the guarantee chain
- Phase III - due for 2005
 - Currently working within the management bodies
 - provision for computerisation

Administration



Advantages for Transport & Commerce

- Cost efficiency
- Minimum Customs interference
- Reduces delays
- Facilitates international trade
- Develops international trade
- Offers more scope of transport methods

Advantages for Customs

- Reliability of Customs controls
- Avoids requirement for detailed checks
- Avoids need for national procedures
- Avoids needs for national guarantees
- Offers the right of Customs intervention
- Complies with modern risk-based controls

Principles of TIR

- 1. Secure load compartments
- 2. International guarantee
- 3. International Customs control document
- 4. Mutual recognition of Customs controls
- 5. Controlled access of Issuing associations and Users

Load Compartment security

- Annexes to the Convention lay down standards
 - construction
 - fastenings
 - seals [approved]
- Contracting parties appoint 'approving' authority
- Issue of Approval Certificate
- TIR plate

International Guarantee[1]

- Each Contracting party has national guarantee covering liability in all countries
- Chain of national guarantees
- Based on national law
- Managed by IRU
- Underwritten by international insurers
- Supervised by TIRExB

International Guarantee[2] Operation

- Recourse against perpetrator
- Recourse against National Association
- National association seek recovery from International insurers
- Recovery from Issuing Association
- Underwritten by International insurers

The TIR carnet

- Issued by National associations
- Cover completed at time of issue
- Restricted period of use
- Two sets of vouchers & counterfoils for each country
 - Entry/departure
 - Exit/destination
- Goods manifest and provision for Customs controls
- Valid for complete journey
- Completed returned to IRU

Recognition of Customs controls

- Effective controls at departure
- Examination if appropriate
- Security of transport [approval]
- Secure sealing
- External examination in transit
- Examination/inspection at destination to discharge the movement.

Controlled Access [1]

National associations

- Authorised by Customs
- Financially sound
- Revenue integrity
- Experienced staff
- Written agreement
- Proof of guarantee coverage

Controlled Access [2]

Transport Operators

- Similar requirements
- Written declaration accepting responsibilities
- International TIR Data Bank
 - ID Code
- Managed by TIRExB
- Records withdrawals and exclusions

Operation of the System [1]

Departure

- Produce to Customs
- Examination at Departure [or first entry to the system]
- Formalities completed
 - Examination
 - Physical checks
 - Documentary checks
 - Sealing
- Customs action recorded
- First voucher retained by Customs
- Carnet returned to User
- Transport to external frontier

Operation of the System [2]

External frontier

- Produced to Customs
- Inspects documentation
- External [security] examination, seals etc.
- Completes and detaches second voucher
- Returns carnet to User for onward journey
- Returns second voucher to office of departure/entry
- Repeated for each country

Operation of the System [3]

Destination

- Produce to Customs
- Documentary and physical checks
- Customs examination if appropriate
- Completes documentation
- Discharged carnet returned to User
- Cargo remains under Customs control

Special Provisions

- Convention provides for
 - Specified routes to be taken
 - Completion within a specified time scale
 - The provision of escorts
- National administrations need to establish Inquiry procedures to discharge their 'national' movements

Future Developments

- Continued expansion of international trade
- ECOSOC resolution 1984/79
 - worldwide examination of TIR facilities
- This conference
- Phase III review makes provision for computerisation
 - work proceeding on ‘core data’

Implications/Requirements

- Accession to the Convention
- Physical and administrative infrastructure
- Establishment of guarantee system
- Authorisation of Issuing association.
- Authorisation of users
- Appointment of vehicle approval body
- Interface with other systems
 - EU NCTS & Sensitive goods
- Participation in UNECE meetings

Harmonisation Convention

- International Convention on the Harmonisation of Frontier controls of Goods 1982
 - Designed to facilitate trade at the interface between countries
 - Cooperation
 - Harmonised Customs hours