

# CAREC Forum on the TIR Customs Transit System

Shanghai, 19-21 October 2005

## *Introduction to the TIR Convention - TIR for bilateral and regional transit*

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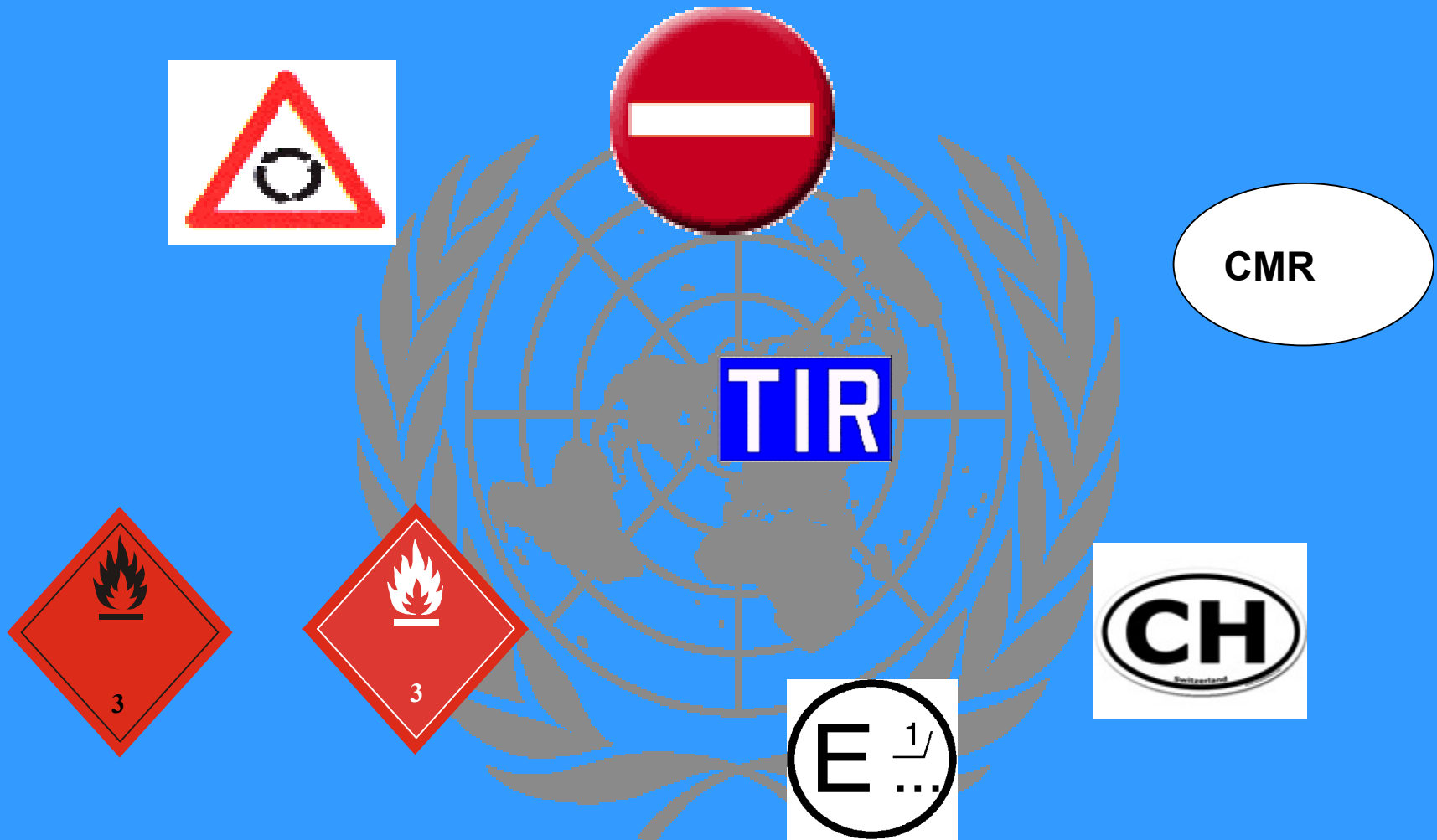
# Overview

- UNECE
- History and characteristics
- Objectives
- Advantages
- Geographical Scope
- The Five Pillars of the TIR System
- Additional, non-obligatory, provisions
- Types of transit and intermodal application
- Future
- Management structure
- Summary

# The UNECE

- Regional branch of the United Nations
- 55 countries (European, CIS, USA and Canada)
- Intergovernmental cooperation in areas of economy, environment, trade and Transport
- Transport: 55 Agreements and Conventions
- International Infrastructure Networks
  - International Highway Code
  - Regulations for Safe and Clean Vehicles
  - Border Crossing Facilitation
  - Rules for Safe Carriage of Dangerous Goods
- Recommendations, Resolutions

# The UNECE



# TIR Convention

## History:

- First Convention 1958, revision 1975
- From 6 countries to 64 countries (Operational: 55)

## Characteristics

- Only global transit procedure
- Also applicable for bilateral transit traffic
- Intermodal (trucks and containers)
- Public/Private Partnership

# OBJECTIVES

## Customs Authorities

- Efficient Customs procedures for transit traffic
- Provision of an international guarantee
- Revenue protection

## Transport Sector

- Facilitation of transit procedures
- Simplification and harmonization of Customs formalities
- Minimum procedures at borders
- Reduced transport costs

# Advantages

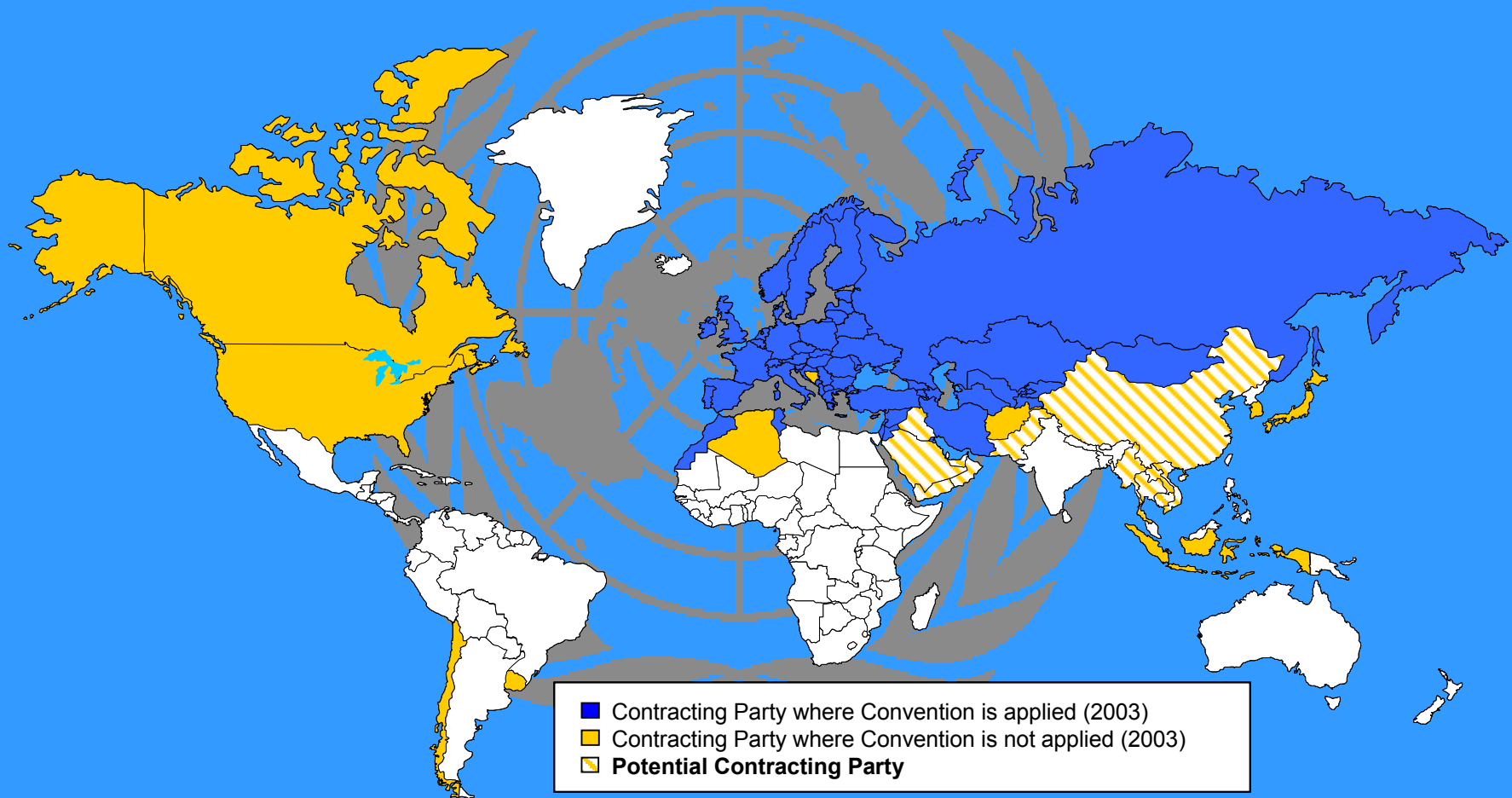
## Customs Authorities

- No physical inspection of goods in transit
- No national guarantee system
- No national Customs document

## Transport/Trade Industry

- Minimum of procedures at borders
- Reduced delays at borders
- No restriction in the modes of transport
- Lower transport costs (reduced export and import costs)

# Geographical scope





# THE TIR CUSTOMS TRANSIT PROCEDURE

TIR Convention, 1975

5 pillars of the TIR system

Secure vehicles  
or containers

International  
guarantee

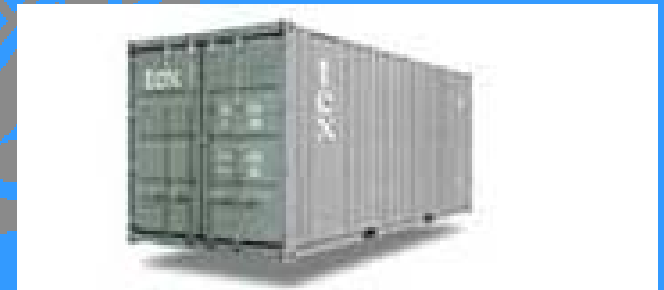
Document  
(TIR Carnet)

Mutual recognition  
of Customs  
control

Controlled  
access

# Approval of road vehicles and containers

- Annex 2 (vehicles) and Annex 7 (Containers)
- No goods can be removed without leaving obvious traces or breaking the Customs seal
- Customs seals can be simply and effectively affixed to them



# Approval of road vehicles and containers

Certificate Number.  
3B/V 46930

**Identification**

1. Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Type of Vehicle TRI-AXLE SEMI-TRAILER

3. Chassis No. 794-312

4. Trade mark (or name of manufacturer) CRANE FRUEHAUF

5. Other particulars 13.6 METRE STRAIGHT FRAME ALUMINIUM DOOR SIDES  
2 REAR TAIL GATES, TILT, HOLLOW ROOF RIGS OPEN ENDED 1 SEA

6. Number of annexes 2 PHOTOGRAPHS

**7. Approval**

Valid Until 04TH MAY 2003

☒ individual approval

☐ approval by design type  
(mark applicable<sup>2</sup> alternative with an "X")

Authorisation Number \_\_\_\_\_

Place G.V.S. 35 CHELMSFORD 1

Date MAY 03RD

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Holder, Manufacturer, Owner or Operator**

Name and Address \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Renewals**

Valid until	Place	Date	Signature	Stamp

Please see the Important Notice on page 4.

page 2.

# International guarantee

- National guaranteeing association guarantees duties and taxes;
- Covers all TIR operations in a country, both by national or foreign transport operators;
- Associations linked through international chain administered by International Road Transport Union (IRU)
- Limit equal to US \$ 50.000 per TIR Carnet

# The TIR Carnet

- Customs document replaces any other national Customs transit documents;
- Guarantee document which itself proves the existence and validity of the guarantee;
- Annex 1: Model



# The TIR Carnet

**IRU** Union Internationale des Transports Routiers (IRU)

**CARNET TIR \***

**14 volets** YX 00000000

1. Valable pour prise en charge par le bureau de douane de départ jusqu'au  
Valid for the acceptance of goods by the Customs office of departure up to and including

2. Délivré par  
Issued by

3. Titulaire  
Holder

4. Signature du délégué de l'association  
Signature of authorized official of the issuing association and stamp of the association

5. Signature du secrétaire de l'association internationale  
Signature of the secretary of the international organization

6. Pays de départ  
Country/Countries of departure

7. Pays de destination  
Country/Countries of destination (\*)

8. Notice d'immatriculation du (des) véhicule(s) routier(s) (\*)  
Registration Notice of road vehicle(s) (\*)

9. Certificats d'agrément du (des) véhicule(s) routier(s) (bis et date) (\*)  
Certificates of approval of road vehicle(s) (bis and date) (\*)

10. Notice d'identification du (des) contenu(s) (\*)  
Manifestation Notice of contents (\*)

11. Observations diverses  
Remarks

12. Signature du titulaire du carnet  
Signature of the carnet holder

(\*) S'il n'y a rien à mentionner, ne pas inscrire.  
If nothing to mention, do not fill in.

**VOUCHER N° 1** PAGE 1

**1. TIR CARNET** No

2. Customs office(s) of departure  
1. 2. 3.

3. Name of the international organization

4. Holder of the carnet (name, address and country)

5. Country of departure 6. Country/Countries of destination

7. Registration No(s) of road vehicle(s)

8. Documents attached to the manifest

**GOODS MANIFEST**

9. (a) Load compartment(s) or container(s)  
(b) Marks and Nos. of packages or articles

10. Number and type of packages or articles, description of goods

11. Gross weight in kg

12. Seal or identification marks applied (number)

13. I declare the information in items 1-12 above to be correct and complete

14. Place and date

15. Signature of holder or agent

16. Customs office at departure. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

17. Customs office at destination. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

18. Certificate for goods taken under control (Customs office of departure or of entry en route)

19. Seals or identification marks found to be intact

20. Time-limit for transit

21. Registered by the Customs office at under No.

22. Miscellaneous (Itinerary stipulated, Customs office at which the load must be produced, etc.)

23. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

**COUNTERFOIL N° 1** PAGE 1 of TIR CARNET No

1. Accepted by the Customs office at

2. Under No.

3. Seals or identification marks applied

4. Seals or identification marks found to be intact

5. Miscellaneous (route prescribed, Customs office at which the load must be produced, etc.)

6. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

**VOUCHER N° 2** PAGE 2

**1. TIR CARNET** No

2. Customs office(s) of departure  
1. 2. 3.

3. Name of the international organization

4. Holder of the carnet (name, address and country)

5. Country of departure 6. Country/Countries of destination

7. Registration No(s) of road vehicle(s)

8. Documents attached to the manifest

**GOODS MANIFEST**

9. (a) Load compartment(s) or container(s)  
(b) Marks and Nos. of packages or articles

10. Number and type of packages or articles, description of goods

11. Gross weight in kg

12. Seal or identification marks applied (number)

13. I declare the information in items 1-12 above to be correct and complete

14. Place and date

15. Signature of holder or agent

16. Customs office at departure. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

17. Customs office at destination. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

18. Certificate for goods taken under control (Customs office of departure or of entry en route)

19. Seals or identification marks found to be intact

20. Time-limit for transit

21. Registered by the Customs office at under No.

22. Miscellaneous (Itinerary stipulated, Customs office at which the load must be produced, etc.)

23. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

24. Certificate of discharge (Customs office of exit en route or of destination)

25. Seals or identification marks found to be intact

26. Number of packages discharged

27. Reservations

28. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

**COUNTERFOIL N° 2** PAGE 2 of TIR CARNET No

1. Accepted by the Customs office at

2. Under No.

3. Seals or identification marks applied

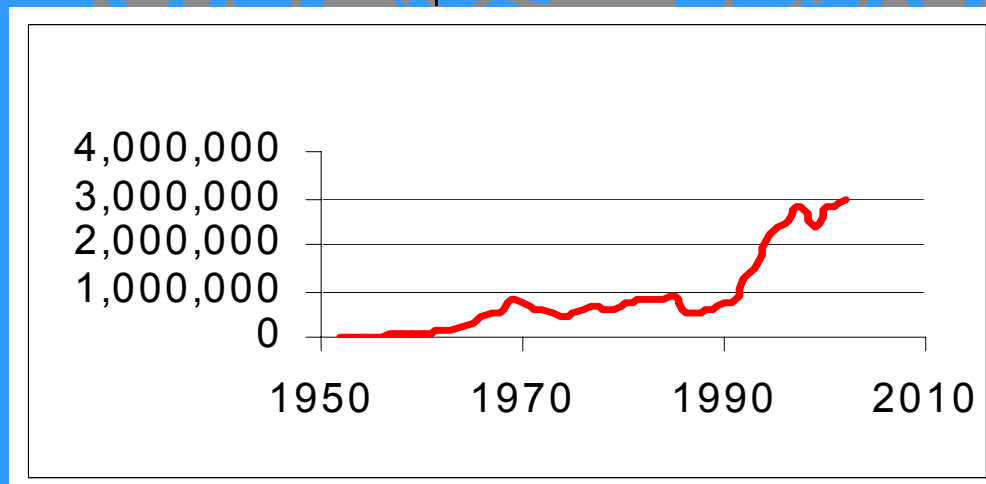
4. Seals or identification marks found to be intact

5. Miscellaneous (route prescribed, Customs office at which the load must be produced, etc.)

6. Customs officer's signature and Customs office date stamp

# Number of TIR Carnets issued

YEAR	TIR CARNETS ISSUED
1959	67,000
1969	790,035
1980	718,612
1990	748,600
2000	2,782,600
2003	3,298,000



# Mutual recognition of Customs control

- Principle: Customs control measures taken in the country of departure should be accepted by the countries of transit and destination:
- No examination of sealed load compartments, except in special cases:
- Customs inspection at the office of departure crucial;
- Only documentary control en route (exceptions).



# Controlled access to the TIR System

- By Administrative Committee of International organization (Article 6.2bis);
- By national Customs authority of national Associations, issuing and guaranteeing TIR Carnets (Annex 9, part I);
- By national Customs authority of Transport Operators (Annex 9, part II, b)
  - 40,000 operators registered with the TIRExB

# Additional, non-obligatory provisions

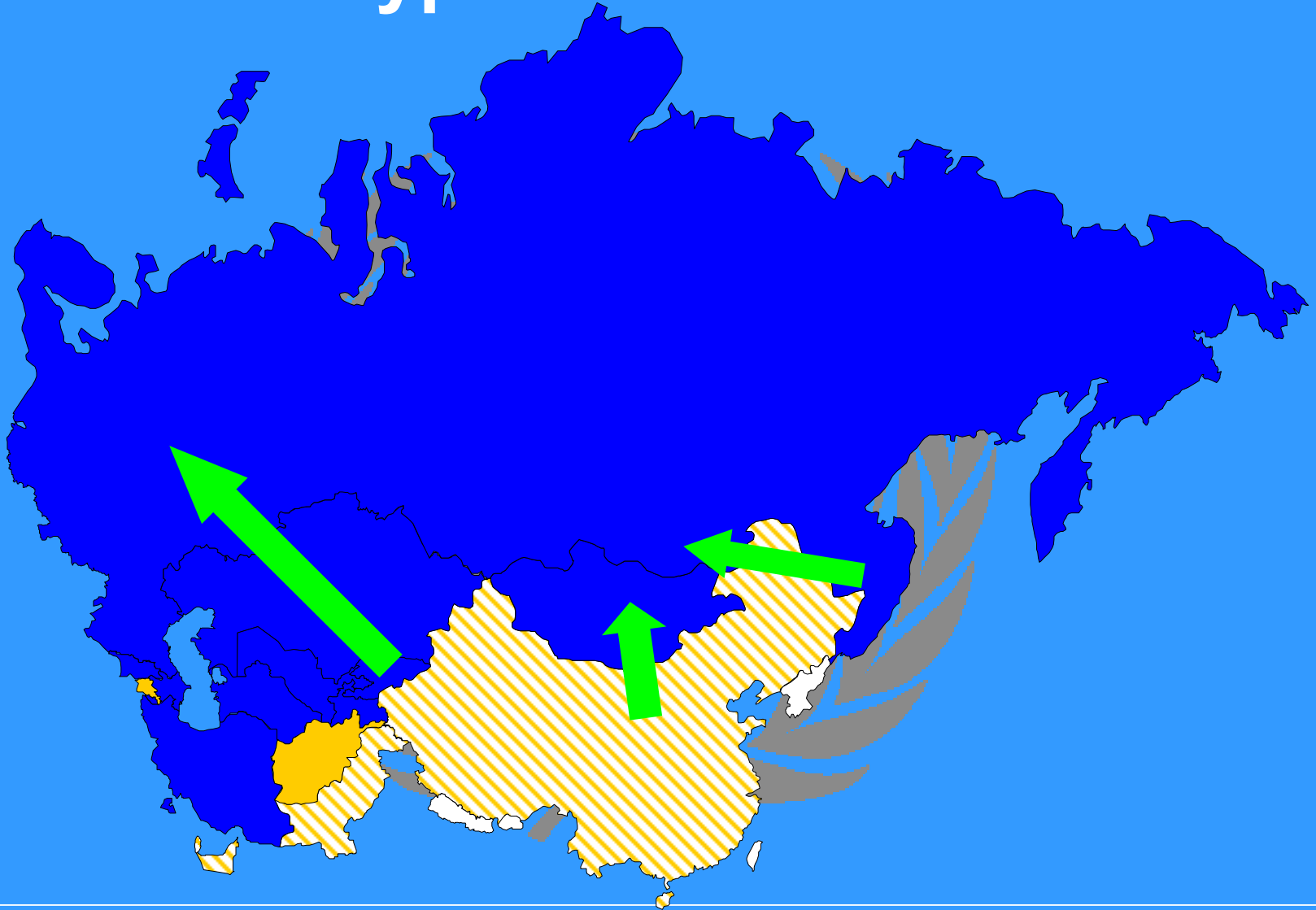
- Time-limits
- Fixed itineraries
- Escorts



# Types of transit

- Bilateral traffic (4 pages TIR Carnet)  
(eg. China-Mongolia)
- Transit through third country  
(eg. Kyrgyzstan-Kazakhstan-Russia)
- Transit between two territories of one country  
crossing another country (4 pages TIR carnet)  
(e.g. Russia-China-Russia)

# Types of transit



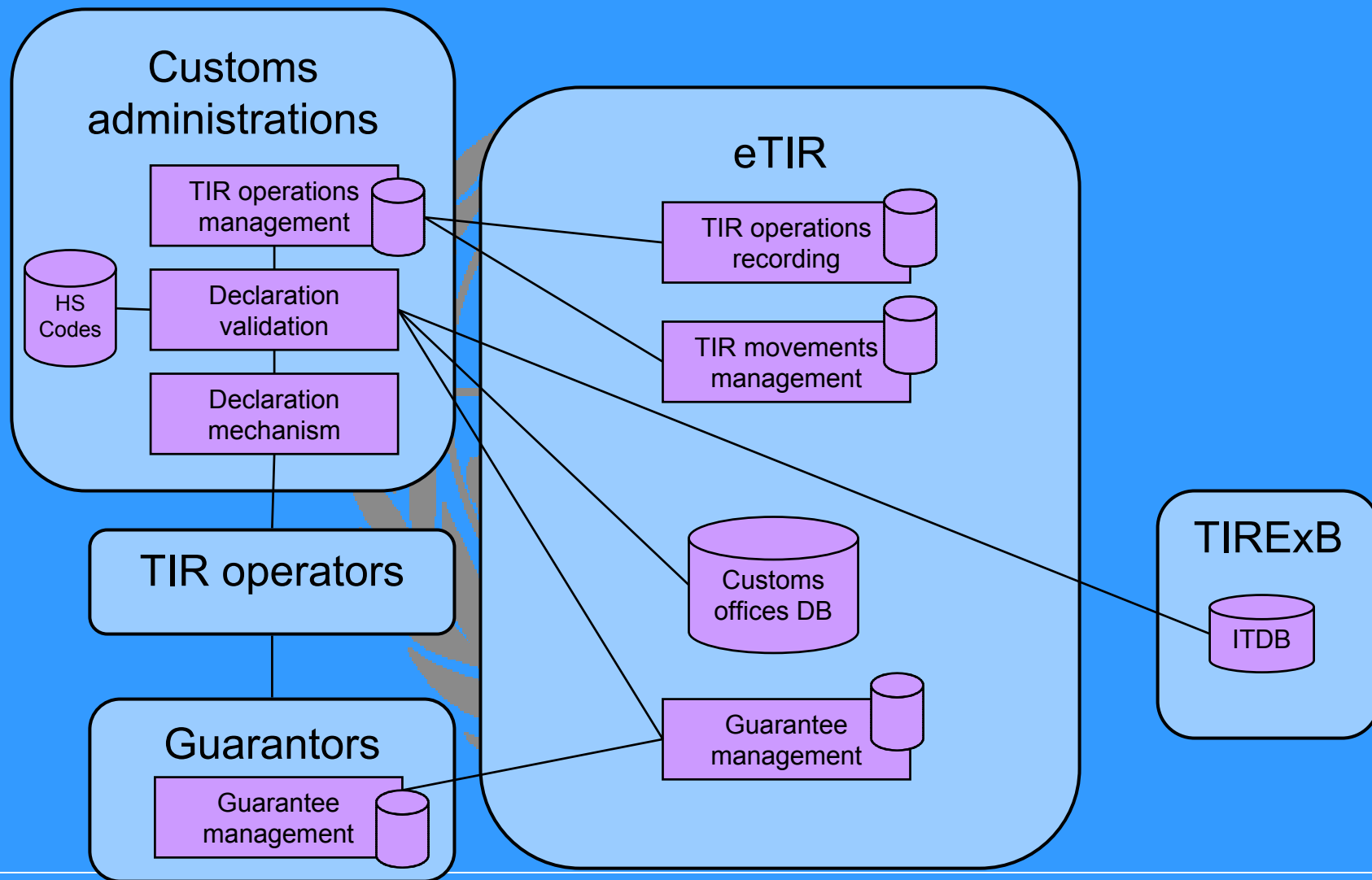
# Intermodal applications

- TIR transport via ro/ro ferry  
(trailer from Russia to Kazakhstan via Caspian sea)
- TIR transport on inland water transport barge  
(container from Romania to Austria on Danube )
- TIR transport with deep sea container vessel  
(container from China to Netherlands)
- TIR transport railway  
(container per rail from China via Kazakhstan to Turkmenistan)

# Future: TIR computerization

- Present: IRU SAFETIR with termination data, new Annex 10.
- Future: Fully computerized TIR procedure Interface for national Customs systems.
  - Efficient tool for
    - ✓ international intermodal transit;
    - ✓ risk management and advanced cargo information, i.e. supply chain security;
    - ✓ Revenue protection;

# TIR computerization - eTIR



# TIR Management Structure

- TIR Administrative Committee
- TIR Executive Board (TIRExB)
- UN/ECE Working Party (WP.30)
- TIR Contact Group
- UNECE/TIR secretariat
- International Organization - IRU





# Public Private Partnership (PPP)

## Public sector :

- UNECE (Convention Bodies, Contracting Parties)
  - Guardian of the Convention
  - Supervising admissions
  - Focus on support / training / capacity building
- 
- Private sector:
  - IRU (National Associations, Holders)
  - Document and guarantee administration
  - Extensive & harmonized admission procedures
  - Training



# Issues related to the use of TIR

- Traffic/transit rights
  - Bilateral agreements
  - Multilateral agreements (SCO)
  - Visa
- Harmonized Border crossing procedures
  - Kyoto Convention
  - Harmonization Convention
    - ✓ Integrated border management
    - ✓ One stop approach – joint controls
    - ✓ Cooperation between neighbouring countries and national authorities

# Joint Customs controls



# Summary

- TIR = International intermodal transit system (bilateral, inter-regional, intercontinental)
- Provides cost efficient transit procedures
- Ensures revenue protection
- Boosts competitiveness & global integration
- Builds on Public/Private partnership model
- Provides free access for all UN members
- Enhances transit and supply chain security through TIR computerization



<http://tir.unece.org>