

Information on the application of provisions of the TIR Convention in Kazakhstan

After end of World War II in 1949 was signed agreement among several European states to facilitate the simplification of international transportation. ECE Transport committee adopts TIR Convention in 1959. In 1975 this Convention was updated taking into account an experience gained with practice of using the system, technical innovations, changes in the customs and transportation rules and procedures. Now TIR Convention is being updated once a year.

The principal objective of TIR Convention from 1975 is to ensure reliable customs surveillance of the transported consignments and to make transit much simple. TIR procedure intends to facilitate international transportations under the customs control by introduction of unified customs rules and use of single customs document throughout several countries and to ensure required, from the customs standpoint, reliability and relevant guarantees for transit countries.

Currently 65 parties accessed the TIR Convention dated 1975. Republic of Kazakhstan accessed the TIR Convention of 1975 on 12th May 1995.

Pursuant to article 6 of the TIR Convention, a TIR guarantor in the Republic of Kazakhstan is the Kazakh Union of international freight forwarders. KazATO associates 160 transportation companies and private businessmen. Over all time of the KazATO operations it was issued 85266 TIR-carnets, including 18864 in 2004. As of 1st October 2005 16122 TIR carnets were issued.

In early 2001 under technical assistance provided KazATO the customs authority of Kazakhstan was connected to the single information system SAFE-TIR. The software was downloaded in twelve regional customs units, including 7 in 2004. In 2004 Geneva received report on 32270 completed TIR transactions executed by the local and international operators.

12584 or 39% from the total number of TIR operations were delivered by the Kazakhstan operators. Among foreign operators the biggest amount of freight in to Kazakhstan is attributed to:

- Turkey: 4242;
- Belorussia: 3736;
- Lithuania: 3474;
- Russia: 2509;
- Ukraine: 1402;
- Latvia: 1014;
- Iran: 956;

As of 1st October 2005 Kazakhstan customs authority reported to Geneva data on 28005 TIR-carnets;

Pursuant to par.1, article 8 of TIR Convention “guarantor shall undertake commitment to pay any established entry or exit duties and charges as well as any penalties for delay of such payment imposed by the customs law and regulations of a country that was identified to have infringed the TIR provisions”.

Customs administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan KasATO has submitted claims on 123 TIR-carnets, following up the facts of infringement of the TIR regulations by foreign freight-forwarders. Reported cases were investigated and obtained evidences that shortage of goods is reported under 66 TIR-carnets. Public budget through KazATO received KZT113,5M, including KZT1,1M in 2004 (Estonian TIR carnet).

Once the SAFE-TIR was connected the number of non-compliances has significantly reduced. In recent 4 years KazATO received only 5 claims in total on the payment of customs duties and charges following the reported shortage of goods by the international freight forwarders.

Every reported fact of non-compliance is followed up by the investigation with involvement of customs authority and guarantee chain, examination of actions by a freight forwarder and consignee, establishing the party at fault in line with the provisions of par. 7, article 8 of the TIR Convention.