



Organisation intergouvernementale pour les transports internationaux ferroviaires
Zwischenstaatliche Organisation für den internationalen Eisenbahnverkehr
Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail

OTIF/RID/CE/2018-A

6 July 2018

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**TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF OTIF AND THE REGIONAL
ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE ACCEDED TO COTIF**

**Final report of the 55th session of the RID Committee of Experts
(Berne, 30 May 2018)**

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ITEM 1: Approval of the agenda

Document: RID-18009-CE55 (Secretariat)

1. The provisional agenda contained in calling notice RID-18009-CE55 dated 27 March 2018 was adopted. In addition, a new agenda item (ITEM 7) concerning information on setting up a working group of legal experts was proposed for the agenda and adopted.

ITEM 2: Presence and quorum

Informal document: INF.3 (European Commission)

2. The Secretariat noted that of the 44 Member States entitled to vote, 15 States (see Annex II) were present. The Secretariat explained that it had been informed in a letter from the European Commission dated 23 May 2018 that in accordance with the agreement between OTIF and the European Union concerning the EU's accession to COTIF, the European Union would exercise the voting rights on behalf of its Member States. The quorum in accordance with Article 20 § 1 of the Rules of Procedure ($\frac{1}{3}$ of the Member States) was therefore reached.

ITEM 3: Election of the Chairmen

3. The chair and deputy chair of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Berne, 28 and 29 May 2018), Mrs Caroline Bailleux (Belgium) and Mr Colin Bonnet (Switzerland) were also elected as chair and deputy chair of this session of the RID Committee of Experts.

ITEM 4: Approval of the amendments to RID suggested by the seventh, eighth and ninth sessions of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Prague, 22 to 24 November 2016, Utrecht, 20 to 24 November 2017 and Berne, 28 to 30 May 2018) for a date of entry into force of 1 January 2019

Document: [OTIF/RID/NOT/2019] (Secretariat)

Informal document: INF.14 from the 9th session of the standing working group (Secretariat)

4. The RID Committee of Experts had in front of it the draft notification texts (document [OTIF/RID/NOT/2019]) containing all the amendments to RID proposed by the seventh and eighth sessions of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Prague, 22 to 24 November 2016 and Utrecht, 20 to 24 November 2017) for a date of entry into force of 1 January 2019. This document also contained all the texts adopted by the last RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Berne, 12 to 16 March 2018).
5. The RID Committee of Experts also had before it informal document INF.14 from the 9th session of the standing working group, which contained the corrections and amendments to document [OTIF/RID/NOT/2019] and all the additional texts adopted at the 9th session of the standing working group (Berne, 28 and 29 May 2018).
6. The Secretariat explained that for many of the standards to be included in RID the CEN ratification procedure had been concluded, but publication would only take place later in the year. The last Joint Meeting reconfirmed an earlier decision that only standards available by 1 June 2018 could be included in the notification texts (see report OTIF/RID/RC/2018-A – ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/150, paragraph 9 a)). Moreover, the ratification procedure for EN ISO standard 17871:2015 + A1:2018 had not yet been concluded.

7. As the inclusion of these standards in the notification texts for ADR would also be referred to the United Nations' legal service, the Secretariat asked the RID Committee of Experts to **authorise the Secretariat to delete the references to these standards from the notification texts if the UNECE Secretariat also did so. The RID Committee of Experts agreed to this**, so as to avoid differences between RID and ADR (see also footnote 1 to paragraph 8 of the draft report of the 9th session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2018-A)).
8. The RID Committee of Experts agreed with this procedure and unanimously adopted all the other amendments contained in the two documents referred to for a date of entry into force of 1 January 2019.
9. The Secretariat explained that it would send the Member States the final notification texts by 6 July 2018.

ITEM 5: Confirmation of the standing working group's decision to set up a Joint Coordinating Group of Experts to implement the procedures described in the report of the RID/ATMF Working Group

Document: OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2017-A, paragraphs 60 and 61 (Secretariat)

10. The RID Committee of Experts endorsed its standing working group's decision to set up a Joint Coordinating Group of Experts to implement the procedures described in the report of the RID/ATMF Working Group.

ITEM 6: Adaptation of the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure

Document: OTIF/RID/CE/2018/1 (Secretariat)

11. In this document, the Secretariat proposed various adaptations to the Rules of Procedure in order to reflect the new working method of the RID Committee of Experts and its standing working group, which has been in use since 2012, and to avoid decisions being delayed as a result of this new working method.
12. In reply to a question from the European Commission as to whether, in the absence of the representative of the European Commission, the European Union could be represented by one of its Member States, it was replied that this was a matter for the internal relationship between the European Union and its Member States and did not therefore fall within the scope of the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure.
13. The representative of the United Kingdom said that his country did not support the proposed amendments to Articles 4 (Right to vote) and 20 (Quorum). He pointed out that the right of regional organisations to vote on behalf of all its members might lead to a big reduction in the number of meeting participants.
14. The chair emphasised that the Member States' participation was still very important, because discussions at the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group could only take place with their expert technical knowledge.
15. In a vote, the RID Committee of Experts adopted the amendments to the Rules of Procedure with a few minor amendments (see Annex I) (13 in favour, one opposed (United Kingdom) and one abstention (Spain)).

ITEM 7: Information on setting up a working group of legal experts

Informal document: INF. 2 (Secretariat)

16. The head of OTIF's legal department provided the RID Committee of Experts with information on setting up a working group of legal experts, whose main aim would be to support the other organs of OTIF in legal matters. He explained that the working group would not itself select the subjects it dealt with, but would only take action at the request of OTIF's organs. This therefore opened the possibility for the RID Committee of Experts and its standing working group to approach this new working group with legal issues if they so required.

Farewells

17. Mr Klaas Tiemersma (Netherlands) had taken part in meetings of the RID Committee of Experts, its working groups and other dangerous goods bodies since 1996. When his career phase in the carriage of dangerous goods first started, a large number of working groups were held to deal with the restructuring of RID. He will end his career at the Dutch Ministry for Infrastructure, Public Works and Water Management.
18. Mr Ian Boddington (United Kingdom), who had taken part in the work of the RID Committee of Experts and the standing working group for eight years, would also be retiring directly after the 55th session of the RID Committee of Experts.
19. Mrs Joanna Dolińska (Poland) would end her career at the Polish Ministry of Infrastructure at the end of August and take on some new professional challenges.
20. The chair thanked Mrs Dolińska, Mr Boddington and Mr Tiemersma for their many years of active participation in the work of the RID Committee of Experts and its standing working group. She regretted that Mrs Dolińska would not be taking part in the next session of the standing working group, which would be held in her **country**. On behalf of the RID Committee of Experts, she wished Mr Boddington and Mr Tiemersma a long, healthy and happy retirement and wished Mrs Dolińska all the best in her future career.

Thanks

21. The chair thanked the Secretariat for the customary good preparation of the documents, which had considerably simplified the chairmanship of this meeting. She particularly thanked the Secretariat for the efforts it had made in connection with submitting informal document INF.14 in all three working languages on time. She thanked the interpreters for the good quality of the interpretation, which had considerably helped the understanding of the debate. She also thanked the delegates for their constant constructive work in a friendly atmosphere.
22. On behalf of all the delegates, the deputy chair thanked the chair for her efficient conduct of the discussions over the past biennium, which had made it possible to adopt the final amendments to RID 2019.
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Texts adopted by the 55th session of the RID Committee of Experts

Amendments to the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure

At the end of the first paragraph after the table of contents, replace the colon by a full stop.

Insert the following new paragraph after this paragraph:

“The terms used to describe persons are general and may be understood as referring to both males and females.”

Article 10

§ 2 Amend “the Chairman and one or more Deputy Chairmen” to read:

“the Chair and one or more deputy Chairs”.

§ 3 At the beginning, amend "The Chairman" to read:

“The Chair”.

§ 4 At the beginning, amend "The Chairman" to read:

“The Chair”.

§ 5 At the beginning, amend "The Chairman" to read:

“The Chair”.

In the third sentence, amend “The Chairman’s” to read:

“The Chair’s”.

Article 12

§ 1 Amend "the Chairman" to read:

“the Chair”.

Article 15

§ 2 Amend "The Chairman" to read:

“The Chair”.

§ 3 In the second sentence, amend “The Chairman’s” to read:

“The Chair’s”.

Article 16

§ 3 Amend "the Chairman" to read:
"the Chair".

Article 17

§ 3 Amend "the Chairman" to read:
"the Chair".

Article 26

§ 2 In the second sentence, amend "the Chairman's" to read:
"the Chair's".

Document OTIF/RID/CE/2018/1 adopted with the following amendments:

Article 21

§ 3 In letter (b), after "Member States, insert:
"and regional organisations".
In letter (h), after "Member States, insert:
"and regional organisations".

Liste des participants
Teilnehmerliste
List of participants

I. États parties au RID/RID-Vertragsstaaten/RID Contracting States

Allemagne/Deutschland/Germany

Mr Alfons **Hoffmann**
Mr Benjamin **Körner**
Mr Frank **Jochems**

Autriche/Österreich/Austria

Mr Othmar **Krammer**
Mr Gerhard **Mayer**

Belgique/Belgien/Belgium

Ms Caroline **Bailleux**

Danemark/Dänemark/Denmark

Mr Claus René **Pedersson**
Ms Bolette **Daugaard**

Espagne/Spainien/Spain

Mr Luis **del Prado Arévalo**
Mr Alejandro **Martos**

Finlande/Finnland/Finland

Mr Jouni **Karhunen**

France/Frankreich/France

Mr Michel **Korhel**

Italie/Italien/Italy

Mr Benedetto **Legittimo**
Mr Andrea Giuseppe **Ercole**

Luxembourg/Luxemburg/Luxembourg

Mr Albrecht **Wustrau**

Pays-Bas/Niederlande/Netherlands

Mr Arjan **Walsweer**
Mr Henk **Langenberg**
Mr Klaas **Tiemersma**

Pologne/Polen/Poland

Ms Joanna **Dolińska**

République tchèque/Tschechische Republik/Czech Republic

Mr Lubos **Knížek**
Ms Alena **Zátopková**
Mr Vladimír **Hájek**
Mr Stanislav **Hájek**

Royaume-Uni/Vereinigtes Königreich/United Kingdom

Mr Ian **Boddington**
Mr Arne **Bale**

Suède/Schweden/Sweden

Mr Johan **Karlsson**
Mr Henric **Strömberg**
Ms Ewa **Nordling**

Suisse/Schweiz/Switzerland

Mr Colin **Bonnet**

**II. Organisations internationales gouvernementales/
Internationale Regierungsorganisationen/ International governmental organisations**

Union européenne/Europäische Union/European Union

Mr Roberto **Ferravante**

**Agence de l'Union européenne pour les chemins de fer /Eisenbahnagentur der Europäischen
Union / European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)**

Mr Emmanuel **Ruffin**

**III. Organisations internationales non gouvernementales
Internationale Nichtregierungsorganisationen
International non-governmental organisations**

CEFIC

Mr Jörg **Roth**
Mr Thorsten **Bieker**

FuelsEurope

Mr Andreas **Witoszynskyj**

UIC

Mr Jean-Georges **Heintz**

UIP

Mr Rainer **Kogelheide**
Mr Philippe **Laluc**

UIRR

Mr Onorato **Zanini**
Mr Ullrich **Lück**

IV. Secrétariat/Sekretariat/Secretariat

Mr Jochen **Conrad**
Ms Katarina **Guricová**
Mr Aleksandr **Kuzmenko**

V. Interprètes/Dolmetscher/Interpreters

Mr Werner **Küpper**
Ms Joana **Meenken**
Mr David **Ashman**
