TO THE MEMBER STATES AND ASSOCIATED MEMBERS OF OTIF
AND TO REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE ACCeded TO
COTIF

14th Session of the RID Committee of Experts’ standing working group
(hybrid meeting, 23 May 2022)
1. At the 13th session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Geneva/hybrid, 15 to 18 November 2021), it was agreed to hold the 14th session on 23 and 24 May 2022 (see report OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2021-A, paragraph 63). Directly after this meeting, the 57th session of the RID Committee of Experts was to have been held on 25 May 2022. At this session, all the amendments that are due to enter into force on 1 January 2023 should be adopted.

2. In view of the fact that few documents other than those for the 2023 revision of RID have been announced, it was agreed with the Chair, Ms Caroline Bailleux, and the Vice-Chair, Mr Othmar Krammer, to shorten the 14th session of the standing working group to one day and to bring the 57th session of the RID Committee of Experts forward by one day.

**TIME OF THE MEETING**

3. The 14th session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group will be held on **23 May 2022**. The meeting will start at **10:00 CEST** and will end at **17:30 CEST**.

4. The 57th session of the RID Committee of Experts will take place on Tuesday, 24 May 2022 after the 14th session of the standing working group. The invitation to the RID Committee of Experts will be sent separately.

5. The 14th session of the standing working group and the 57th session of the RID Committee of Experts will be held as hybrid meetings which delegates may attend in person or take part in remotely.

6. The Swiss authorities lifted nearly all restrictions in relation with the COVID-19 pandemic. Thus, international conferences are no longer subject to restrictions on access, distance, hygiene, the obligation to wear a mask or data collection. Hosts or organisers may decide to require the wearing of masks or to impose other restrictions on access to certain places or events, in particular if this is necessary to ensure the protection of those present.

7. For the standing working group, it has been decided that all meeting attendees are required to wear a face mask at all times whilst in indoor public spaces and in the meeting room, including when seated.

8. Depending on the situation in terms of infections, the Swiss health authorities may also impose stricter measures at short notice before the meeting, which may further restrict personal participation or make it impossible. If you decide to attend in person, we recommend that you organise your travel in such a way that bookings can be cancelled at any time.

9. The website of the [Swiss Federal Office of Public Health](https://www.bfs.admin.ch) contains more information about the current requirements for entering Switzerland. We will inform you of the current status around two weeks before the meeting. At that time, we will also provide you with the access details to attend the meeting remotely.
VENUE

10. The meeting will be held at the:

   Universal Postal Union (UPU)
   Weltpoststrasse 4
   CH – 3015 Bern

   The meeting will take place in the "Heinrich von Stephan" room on the first floor.

Hotels

11. Hotels in Berne are listed on the following [website].

RULES OF PROCEDURE

12. In accordance with Article 22 § 2 of the [RID Committee of Experts’ Rules of Procedure],
   the Rules of Procedure will be applied analogously at meetings of the working groups.

13. In connection with Article 5 § 2 of these Rules of Procedure, the RID Committee of Ex-
   perts decided to invite the same organisations and associations to the meetings of the RID
   Committee of Experts as are invited to the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting.

14. In accordance with Article 11 § 3 of the Rules of Procedure, official proposals must be
    submitted by no later than [8 April 2022].

LANGUAGES

15. The working languages will be English, French and German. There will be consecutive
    interpretation into French and German and simultaneous interpretation into English.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

16. Based on the information and proposals available so far, the Secretariat of OTIF proposes
    the following provisional agenda:

   ITEM 1: Approval of the agenda

   ITEM 2: Presence

   ITEM 3: Approval of the corrections proposed by the Secretariat that have to be made to
   the draft notification texts

   ITEM 4: Interpretation of RID

   ITEM 5: Proposals to amend RID
      a) Pending issues
      b) New proposals

   ITEM 6: Harmonisation of RID and SMGS Annex 2
ITEM 7: Information from the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)

ITEM 8: Any other business

COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTATION

17. The working documents and informal documents for this session of the standing working group can be downloaded from OTIF’s website.

18. The following topics should be discussed under the various items of the agenda. Further topics may be added on the basis of documents still to be received:

ITEM 2: Even though Article 20 (Quorum) of the Rules of Procedure does not apply to the meeting of this working group, it is requested that as many RID Contracting States as possible take part in order to obtain results that are likely to achieve majority support so that they can be adopted at the 57th session of the RID Committee of Experts on 24 May 2022.

At the 6th session, Ms Caroline Bailleux (Belgium) was elected to chair this standing working group until further notice. At the 10th session, Mr Othmar Krammer (Austria) was elected as Deputy Chair until further notice.

ITEM 3: Taking into account the results of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Berne, 14 - 18 March 2022), the Secretariat will prepare a draft version of the notification texts for the 2023 edition of RID on the basis of document OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2021/5 from the last session of the standing working group, which will include all the decisions of the 13th session of the working group and the final decisions of the Joint Meeting.

At the last Joint Meeting, the Secretariat offered to prepare a document on the marking of tank-wagons for the carriage of flammable liquefied gases fitted with safety valves (see draft report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2022/R.1/Add.3, paragraph 26).

The Secretariat will also prepare a document containing the decisions of the 111th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 9 - 13 May 2022) which might have an impact on RID.

ITEM 4: So far, no documents are available for this agenda item.

ITEM 5 a): So far the following document has been submitted for this agenda item:

| OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2022/1 (UIC) | Updating the NHM codes in Table B of Chapter 3.2 |

In addition, the following information and documents have been announced:

– Document from the Secretariat on the marking of tanks intended for the carriage of compressed or liquefied or dissolved gases equipped with safety valves;
– Document from the Secretariat on the inclusion of a reference to standard EN 14841 in the Notes to RID 1.4.3.3 and 1.4.3.7.1;

– Information from the representative of UIP on the results of the workshop on revising the requirements for protecting the tank against damage caused by impacts or the overriding of buffers (document OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2021-A, paragraphs 31 to 36).

ITEM 5 b): So far, no documents are available for this agenda item.

ITEM 6: So far, no documents are available for this agenda item.

ITEM 7: ERA will submit information on this standing agenda item in an informal document. The Member States are asked to make any requests concerning the content of the information from ERA via the Secretariat.

ITEM 8: So far, no documents are available for this agenda item.

19. Documents with document reference number “OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/...” are available on OTIF’s website.

REGISTRATION

20. Delegates are kindly requested to register their attendance as usual by no later than 29 April 2022 using the online form. This is particularly important, as remote participation is only possible with a personal link that will be sent before the meeting. If you do not register in time, there is a risk that you will not receive the necessary information in time.

TRAVEL TICKETS

21. Those delegates who intend travelling by train are asked to contact the relevant railway networks directly to obtain any facilitated transport services.

Yours faithfully

(Wolfgang Küpper)
Secretary General

cc:
– interested international organisations and associations, as an invitation
– railway undertakings, with the request to honour the above-mentioned free travel