

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

Secrétaire général Generalsekretär Secretary General

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## TO THE MEMBER STATES OF OTIF AND TO REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE ACCEDED TO COTIF

Switzerland – Approval of the amendments to COTIF and Appendices D, F and G adopted by the  $12^{\text{th}}$  General Assembly.

In his capacity as the Depositary of COTIF, the Secretary General of OTIF hereby informs you that on 21 October 2016, Switzerland deposited its instrument of approval of the amendments to COTIF and Appendices D, F and G adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in September 2015. This instrument was not accompanied by any declarations.

Switzerland is the first OTIF Member State to approve these amendments.

In accordance with Article 34 § 2 of COTIF, the amendments to the Convention adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will only enter into force twelve months after they have been approved by two thirds of the Member States in accordance with their national law, i.e. at present once 31 Member States have approved them.

In accordance with Article 34 § 3 of COTIF, the amendments to Appendices D (CUV), F (APTU) and G (ATMF) adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will also only enter into force twelve months after they have been approved, in accordance with their national law, by half the States that have not made a declaration in accordance with the first sentence of Article 42 § 1 of COTIF, i.e. at present once 21 Member States have approved them.

Owing to the relatively limited extent of these amendments compared with the amendments to COTIF in the version of the Vilnius Protocol adopted by the 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, the Secretary General would welcome these amendments entering into force as soon as possible.

Rapid entry into force of the amendments adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly would enable the provisions of COTIF and its Appendices to be aligned as soon as possible with the amendments already adopted by the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the Revision Committee, which have been in force since 1 July 2015.

In accordance with Article 34 § 4 of COTIF therefore, the Secretary General urges the Member States to send him as soon as possible their notifications concerning approval – in accordance with the applicable national procedures – of the amendments to the Convention and to Appendices D (CUV), F (APTU) and G (ATMF) adopted by the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

(François Davenne) Secretary General

cc:

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