



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**

Depositary Notification

Estonia – Acceptance of the amendments to COTIF and Appendices D, F and G adopted by the 12th General Assembly

Belgium – Approval of the amendments to COTIF and Appendices D, F and G adopted by the 12th General Assembly

The Secretary General of the International Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF), acting in his capacity as depositary, notifies the following:

On 15 January 2018 the Republic of Estonia deposited its instrument of acceptance of the amendments to COTIF and Appendices D, F and G adopted by the 12th General Assembly in September 2015.

On 19 January 2018 the Kingdom of Belgium deposited its instrument of approval of the same amendments.

These instruments were not accompanied by any declarations.

In accordance with Article 34 § 2 of COTIF, the amendments to the Convention adopted by the 12th 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 12th 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.

At present, 29 months after the 12th General Assembly held in September 2015, only nine States have completed the formalities required for the amendments to enter into force.

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 5th 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 12th 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 25th 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 12th General Assembly.



(François Davenne)
Secretary General

cc:

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