



## Interface approach for international parcel delivery by train

On Monday, 12 December 2016, Mr François Davenne, the Secretary General of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF), took part in the meeting of experts to assess the first “Postal Pilot Transportation” between Chongqing (China) and Duisburg (Germany). Representatives of CIT, CCTT, UPU, OTIF, the customs authorities and the private sector attended the meeting.

The results of the first “Postal Pilot Transportation” proved that parcel transport by rail is a viable alternative to other modes, which is less expensive than air transport and faster than maritime transport. The second “Postal Pilot Transportation” from Germany to China will take place at the beginning of 2017.

This project illustrates the efficiency and versatility of the COTIF legal regime for the international transport of goods (Appendix B, CIM).

At the meeting, the Secretary General of OTIF emphasised that the transport of parcels between China and Europe will involve establishing appropriate interfaces between four regulatory areas: customs, selling of goods , post and rail transport. The interfaces approach is indispensable for the implementation of complex projects.

This project also demonstrates how different sectors can cooperate successfully.

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