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



31 May 2017

10th Session of the Committee of Technical Experts

On 13 and 14 June 2017, the Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) will meet in Berne for its 10th anniversary. It will deal with issues that are of importance to the development of international railway law and technical interoperability.

In accordance with the provisional agenda, the CTE will focus on preparing the amendments to the APTU and ATMF Appendices for the Revision Committee to be held at the end of February 2018. These important amendments will enable the APTU and ATMF Appendices to be aligned with the 4th Railway Package, which entered into force in the European Union (EU) Member States in June 2016.

The Committee of Technical Experts will also work on drafting a new Appendix H to COTIF concerning the safe operation of trains in international traffic. The aim of this Appendix is to extend technical interoperability beyond the EU. Once it has been examined by the Revision Committee, the aim will be to submit it to OTIF's General Assembly in 2018 for adoption.

Lastly, the result of some very productive work, the Uniform Technical Prescriptions (UTP) on "Telematics Applications for Freight" (TAF) will be submitted to this 10^{th} anniversary session of the CTE for adoption.

The Committee of Technical Experts will meet at the Universal Postal Union in Berne on 13 and 14 June 2017. The working languages will be French, German and English. This 10th session should bring about significant legal developments for technical interoperability in international traffic. OTIF's Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) enables the Member States to work on technical interoperability and harmonisation in the rail sector. The CTE also covers the development of uniform technical admission procedures for rolling stock intended to be used in international traffic (Appendix F – APTU Uniform Rules and Appendix G – ATMF Uniform Rules).

This Committee validates, adopts and develops the uniform technical prescriptions (UTP) for railway material used in international traffic in the framework of OTIF.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the CTE, the OTIF Secretariat will be organising a cocktail evening at OTIF's headquarters on 13 June. Experts and delegations from the Member States are welcome!