Committee of Technical Experts – results of the 12th Session

The Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) held its 12th session on 12 and 13 June 2019 in Berne. 29 OTIF Contracting States were represented. There were delegations representing the European Union, UIC, OSJD, NB Rail, CER and UNIFE.

The OTIF Secretariat presented for adoption two proposals for modifications: one concerning the National Vehicle Register (NVR) specifications and one concerning the Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Telematic Applications for Freight (UTP TAF). For procedural reasons the European Union was not in a position to vote at the session and therefore voting on both proposals will take place using the written procedure in the second half of 2019.

The CTE decided to remind those Contracting States that have not yet established their electronic NVR according to the common specification to do so as soon as possible. They should also ensure that connectivity between the different NVRs is established (or maintained).

The Committee discussed the consequences of the development within the European Union of a centralised vehicle register (EVR), particularly with regard to connectivity and data exchange with National Vehicle Registers. It mandated its standing working group (WG TECH) to carry out further analyses and to make proposals for the future of vehicle registers.

CTE reviewed the analysis carried out by WG TECH on the way to treat and notify national technical requirements in relation to UTPs and on the need for further action. The CTE approved the analysis and recommended that it be published as an explanatory note on the OTIF website.

CTE discussed and agreed on the priorities for the next two years concerning the revision of the UTPs and other provisions under the scope of APTU, ATMF and the EST Uniform Rules. In order to accommodate the time needed by the European Union to analyse proposals for legislation in COTIF, CTE agreed to make such proposals available four months, instead of two months, prior to sessions of the CTE. A revised meeting calendar was agreed for this purpose, with the result that the traditional February meeting of WG TECH will in future take place in June, directly after the CTE session.

For more information: www.otif.org > Technology > Committee of Technical Experts.

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