



OTIF at the “Berne Days”

On 13 February 2020, the Secretary General of OTIF, Mr Wolfgang Küpper, spoke at the 2020 Berne Days organised by the International Rail Transport Committee (CIT).

For this 10th session, the Berne Days on international rail transport law highlighted the impact of digitalisation on contracts of carriage of passengers and goods. The conference also reflected the current status of developments in international and European rail transport law.

OTIF’s Secretary General gave a speech during the first part, entitled “Latest developments in railway law from the point of view of legislative institutions and operators”. This part was moderated by Mr Cesare Brand. The Secretary General presented the most recent developments in COTIF: the work undertaken so far on the electronic consignment note, the new Appendix H to COTIF adopted by the 13th General Assembly and the work that is underway on future amendments to RID for the 2021 edition.

Mr Küpper then explained OTIF’s approach to the subject of digitalising freight transport documents. Initially, the Working Group of Legal Experts will assess the application and relevance of the rules of COTIF on digital freight transport documents and will also take into consideration the relevant regulatory practices of other international organisations and other modes of transport. Secondly, this Group will decide how OTIF should support and/or regulate digitalisation.

The Secretariat would like to thank the CIT for its warm welcome.



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