



## OTIF-DG MOVE-ERA : Signing of the second Administrative Arrangement Long term cooperation

On 29 September 2020, OTIF signed a tripartite administrative arrangement with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport and the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA).

This arrangement renews the initial agreement and strengthens the intensive partnership that exists between the European Union and OTIF in terms of technical interoperability and the carriage of dangerous goods in particular.

Unlike the previous arrangement, the parties have decided not to include an expiry date and have chosen to agree on a cooperation framework with common objectives for an indefinite period.

This second administrative arrangement has been restructured and made more flexible so that areas of cooperation between OTIF and the EU can be broadened and developed further:

- It sets out the methods for exchanging information,
- It establishes the framework for interaction between the rules of OTIF and the EU so as to improve joint understanding,
- It defines continuous cooperation on the various technical registers,
- It strengthens coordination to ensure that the railway law of OTIF and the EU is aligned,
- Lastly, it refers to the Joint Coordinating Group of Experts to ensure consistency between the Regulation concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID) and EU law.

The administrative arrangement was signed by Mr Henrik Hololei, the Director General of DG MOVE, Mr Felice Ferrari for Mr Josef Doppelbauer, the Executive Director of ERA, and Mr Wolfgang Küpper, the Secretary General of OTIF. It reflects the parties' wish to improve, promote and facilitate international rail transport for more sustainable and "greener" development.

In addition to confirming the first arrangement, which was signed following the European Union's accession to COTIF, this arrangement also enshrines the interdependence and close links that exist between OTIF and the EU.

