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Orders are to be sent to :**

Central Office for International Carriage by Rail,
Gryphenhübeliweg 30, CH - 3006 Berne
Phone : + 41 31 359 10 10
Fax : + 41 31 359 10 11
E-mail : otif@otif.ch
Internet : www.otif.ch

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Communications of the Central Office

Accession to COTIF

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

On 24 January 2001, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed an application to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980. The Central Office, acting in its quality of Secretariate of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) which, according to Article 2 § 1 of the Protocol of 3 June 1999 for the Modification of COTIF from 9 May 1980 (Protocol 1999) has performed the functions of the Depositary Government provided for in Articles 22 to 26 of COTIF as Provisional Depositary since 3 June 1999, communicated the application to the Member States of OTIF by circular letter of 25 January 2001.

The application shall be deemed to be accepted six months after the aforesaid communication, unless five Member States lodge objections with OTIF as Provisional Depositary.

According to Article 23 § 2 par. 4 of COTIF, the accession shall take effect on the first day of the second month following the month during which the Central

Office has notified the Member States of the list of lines of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The application to accede having been made during the period between the opening of this Protocol for signature and its entry into force, it shall be considered as an accession to COTIF 1980 as well as to the Convention in the version of the Protocol 1999 (Article 3 § 4 of the Protocol 1999).

Accession to the Protocol 1999

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In application of Article 3 § 3 of the Protocol of 3 June 1999 for the Modification of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980 (Protocol 1999), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which has not signed this Protocol within the period provided for, has acceded to this Protocol by depositing an instrument of accession. The instrument of accession was deposited with the Provisional Depositary¹ on 26 February 2001.

¹

According to Article 2 § 1 of the Protocol 1999, OTIF performs the functions of the Depositary Government provided for in Articles 22 to 26 of COTIF 1980 from 3 June 1999 to the entry into force of this Protocol.

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is the fourth State which has ratified respectively has acceded to the Protocol 1999.

Acceptance of the Protocol 1999

Croatia

In application of Article 20 § 1 of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980 and Article 3 § 2 of the Protocol of 3 June 1999 for the Modification of COTIF (Protocol 1999), Croatia deposited on 9 March 2001 its instrument of acceptance of the Protocol 1999 with the Provisional Depositary.

The Protocol 1999 and thus the new version of COTIF shall come into force only after they have been ratified, accepted or approved by more than two-thirds of the Member States of OTIF, that means at least 27 States (Article 20 § 2 COTIF 1980). Croatia is the fifth State which has ratified respectively accepted the Protocol 1999.