



ORGANISATION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE POUR LES TRANSPORTS INTERNATIONAUX FERROVIAIRES
ZWISCHENSTAATLICHE ORGANISATION FÜR DEN INTERNATIONALEN EISENBahnVERKEHR
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE BY RAIL

Revision Committee 25th Session

Partial revision of COTIF – Basic Convention



Purpose of the proposed amendments

- Follow recommendations by the Auditor
- Adopt a proposal submitted by the Committee of Technical Experts
- Align the definition of keeper (depending the decision to be taken on the amendments to CUV UR)
- Harmonise the periods prescribed for registering and deleting a transport service (line)
- Replace the term “European Communities” with “European Union”



Comply with recommendations by the Auditor

- Return to an annual cycle for the budget, the accounts and the “management report”

The Secretariat did not apply Article 25 § 1, as it continued to present the budget and accounts annually. The Auditor therefore invited OTIF to do what was necessary to ensure that the current practices in financial and accounting matters could be formally regularised.

As the entire system set up under COTIF 1999 was based on a two-yearly cycle, returning to an annual cycle requires consequential amendments to Article 14 § 2 e), Article 14 § 6, Article 15 § 5 g) and Article 26 § 5 to 7.

- Initiate the process of reform of Article 27 so that it only contains the general elements for the auditing of accounts.

However, the Secretary General supports retaining the provisions (not only § 1, but also § 3 and 5) which enable the auditor’s monitoring powers to be guaranteed in their entirety, in accordance with international standards in force.



The wording of Article 20 § 3 of the Convention, which prohibits any modification of the uniform technical prescriptions at the time the UTP are adopted, is not in line with Article 33 § 6 of the Convention.

However, at each session of the CTE, the UTP have had to be modified during the session so that they could be adopted.

The CTE was therefore of the view that the text of Article 20 should be amended as proposed, as this would reflect current practice and would be fully in line with Article 33 § 6 of the Convention, Articles 5 and 6 of APTU and with the Committee of Technical Experts' Rules of Procedure.



- The aim in submitting this proposal is to harmonise the period after which a deleted line is no longer subject to COTIF (previously three months) and to harmonise the period prescribed for registering new lines (up to now, the line has been subject to COTIF after one month).
- If a carrier ceases to operate a shipping route which is taken over by another carrier, first of all the service is deleted and then it is newly registered. If the periods differ, there is an overlap, which does not reflect what happens in practice. The same one month period should apply in both cases.