RID: 3rd Session of the RID Committee of Experts’ standing working group
(Berne, 20 and 21 May 2014)

Subject: RID Contracting States – supplementary proposal

Proposal transmitted by the Secretariat

1. In document OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2014/8, the Secretariat explained that those States that have not yet ratified, accepted or approved the Protocol of 3 June 1999 for the Modification of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980, and States whose membership is suspended, cannot be considered as RID Contracting States. Based on this, the Secretariat proposed to differentiate in the list of RID Contracting States on page 1 of the official edition of RID.

2. The representative of Sweden has pointed out to the Secretariat that this clarification on page 1 means that the meaning of RID Contracting State in the Annex to Appendix C (RID) is different to the meaning in Appendix C itself. While States that have not yet ratified the 1999 Protocol are not deemed to be RID Contracting States within the meaning of Appendix C, these States have certain rights and obligations in the Annex to Appendix C (RID), because they apply RID on the basis of COTIF 1980. For example, this includes cases in which the first RID Contracting State reached by a consignment has to recognise an approval issued by a non-Contracting State.

3. To avoid having to replace "RID Contracting States" with a new term throughout RID, the Secretariat proposes that clarification along these lines should be made in the scope of application of RID.

Proposal

3. In 1.1.2, insert a new 1.1.2.4 as follows:

"1.1.2.4 With regard to their rights and obligations according to this Annex to Appendix C, Member States of COTIF 1980 are equated to RID Contracting States in accordance with Article 1bis of Appendix C to COTIF 1999 until they ratify COTIF 1999 and become RID Contracting States themselves."