TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF OTIF

List of CIM railway lines
(Article 24 § 2 of COTIF 1999)

Circular 1
1. In principle, application of the version of the CIV and CIM Uniform Rules set out in the Protocol of 3 June 1999 for the Modification of the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980 (1999 Protocol), which enters into force on 1 July 2006, does not depend on a system of registered lines. The Secretary General only maintains and publishes the lists of lines (Art. 21 § 3 p) of COTIF referred to in Article 24 for particular cases.

2. Railway lines of a Member State that has entered a reservation in accordance with Article 1 § 6 of CIM will be entered in the list of CIM railway lines in accordance with this reservation (Art. 24 § 2 of COTIF).

3. In a circular dated 23 August 2005 (A 56-01/509.2005), the Central Office informed the Member States that in a Note dated 28 January 2005, the Ukraine had announced that it will apply the amendments adopted by the 5th General Assembly to the lines entered in the CIM list of lines (de facto application in accordance with Art. 20 § 3 (2)). In so doing, the Ukraine confirmed its intention of acceding to the 1999 Protocol. The Ukraine’s de facto application of the CIM UR will be restricted to the lines entered in the list of railway lines in accordance with Article 24 § 2 of COTIF 1999 (a total of 232 km).

4. According to Article 1 § 6 of CIM, the possibility of restricting the scope of application of the CIM UR is reserved for newly acceding States. For the time being, only the chapter on the Ukraine will be included in the list of CIM railway lines.

5. In future, communications from Member States concerning the entry or deletion of railway lines must be sent to the Secretary General. With regard to the date from which a railway line is subject or no longer subject to the Uniform Rules, the Secretariat would draw your attention to Article 24 § 5 of COTIF.

6. The list of CIM railway lines will be available on the OTIF website (www.otif.org, under “Publications”).

(Stefan Schimming)
Director General

Annex:
– List of CIM railway lines

cc:
– International Rail Transport Committee (CIT), General Secretariat, Weltpoststraße 20, 3000 Bern 15