WG TECH 20 meeting, Istanbul, 11th September 2013

Several points were discussed during the WG TECH 20 meeting held in Istanbul on 11th September 2013. This meeting was attended by 17 participants from: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, European Union (EC - DG MOVE), ERA and CER. OTIF was represented by B. Leermakers and P. Sorger.

With regard to the development of UTP LOC&PAS, these UTP will fully transpose the LOC&PAS TSI into COTIF law. Amendments to both the TSI and UTP for LOC&PAS will be developed in parallel by an ERA Working Party (WP), which will be open to delegates representing the non-EU OTIF Contracting States. Parallel OTIF/EU developments carried out in an ERA WP were preferred to OTIF-specific developments. The WP will try to deal with unresolved issues to achieve a single approval for passenger coaches and will discuss where to set out parameters relating to interfaces between vehicles.

As for the revision of ATMF, decisions to amend ATMF are in the competence of the Revision Committee. However, draft amendments can be prepared and reviewed by the Committee of Technical Experts. In order to facilitate the process, a small group of experts was set up to prepare draft amendments to ATMF. This revision will cover a number of topics, such as the introduction of safety principles. The group’s first session will take place on 18 October 2013 in Bern.

WG TECH also reviewed a first draft of the guide on the application of the UTP WAG: 2014, which the OTIF Secretariat hopes to publish before the end of 2013. Several other topics were discussed, such as the amendment of the UTP GEN-A, which defines essential requirements, and the amendment of UTP GEN-C on the content of the technical file. These issues will be discussed further at the forthcoming meeting of WG TECH 21 on 3 and 4 December 2013 in Bern.