



Press release

Berne, 05.05.2014

Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail

OTIF participation in the 155th session of the working group on common transit

At the invitation of DG TAXUD, the head of OTIF's legal service went to Brussels on 2 April 2014 to take part in the 155th session of the working group on common transit and simplification of formalities in trade in goods.

Under agenda item B.5 of this meeting, the European Commission's DG TAXUD decided to include letter A 90-1/503.2014 of 21 February 2014, which OTIF had sent to its Member States and to the regional organisations that have acceded to COTIF. The letter concerned "the proposal to amend Article 6 § 9 of the CIM UR at the 25th session of the Revision Committee".

When the European Union's new Customs Code comes into effect on 1 May 2016, information between the economic operators and customs will be exchanged electronically. The simplified

rail transit procedure currently based on the paper CIM consignment note will no longer be possible. Article 233, paragraph 4 e) of the European Union's new Customs Code offers the possibility of authorising simplifications when using an electronic transport document as a customs declaration to place goods under the transit procedure.

OTIF is willing to cooperate with the customs to find an appropriate solution which takes account of the interests of the international rail freight transport sector and of the customs.

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