



# OTIF



Press release

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**Intergovernmental Organisation  
for International Carriage by Rail**

## **OTIF at the ASEM TMM3 forum, or the development of transport between Europe and Asia**

The Asia-Europe Dialogue, or Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), was created in 1996. This intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation comprises 53 members situated in Europe and Asia. On 29 and 30 April 2015, ASEM organised its 3rd Transport Ministers' Meeting (ASEM TMM3) under the auspices of the Latvian presidency of the Council of the European Union on the «Development of Euro-Asia Multimodal Transport Linkages – Status Quo and Blueprints for the Future».



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Mr François Davenne, the Secretary General of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF), was invited by the Minister of Transport of the Republic of Latvia, and took part in panel session II on «prospects and challenges in view of the development of new EU – Asia connectivity».

He took the opportunity to present OTIF and the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) and pointed out

the value of COTIF and its Appendices in the context of developing rail transport between Europe and Asia.



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Mr Davenne also highlighted a global vision of international rail transport based on key concepts to develop the legal and technical interoperability required for trade between Asia and Eur.

In concluding the 3rd Transport Ministers' Meeting ASEM, the delegations and ministries of the ASEM Member States recognised the importance of activities carried out by intergovernmental organisations, such as OTIF, in terms of developing transport between Europe and Asia by means of uniform rules.

**Press contact**

**Sarah Pujol**

[sarah.pujol@otif.org](mailto:sarah.pujol@otif.org)