



## Understanding, entente and a common position

In its capacity as an observer, the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) takes part in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) Inland Transport Committee (ITC).

On the first day of the 78<sup>th</sup> ITC (23 – 26 February 2016), the Secretary General of OTIF, Mr François Davenne, was invited to attend the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the International Union of Railways (UIC) and the Organization for Co-operation between Railways (OSJD), an event held symbolically in parallel with the UNECE ITC in Geneva.

Mr Tadeusz Szozda, the Chairman of the OSJD Committee, and Mr Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, the Director General of UIC, thus signed this Memorandum of Cooperation on Tuesday, 23 February 2016 with a view to a common agreement on unified railway law and facilitated rail traffic.

Mr François Davenne, the Secretary General of OTIF, was honoured by this invitation and had the opportunity to restate OTIF's raison d'être: to build unified railway law to connect Europe, Asia and Africa. OTIF has had a common position with OSJD since 2003, which provides the two organisations with a framework for cooperation. The Secretariat of OTIF welcomes the fact that an instrument of this type now exists between UIC and OSJD.



Mr T.Szozda, Mr J-P.Loubinoux, Mr F. Davenne



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