



Secretary General

RID-26010-CE-SWG20

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**TO THE MEMBER STATES AND ASSOCIATED MEMBERS OF OTIF AND
TO REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAVE ACCEDED TO COTIF,
AND TO OBSERVERS**

20th Session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group

Berne (in person), 27 and 28 May 2026

Invitation, provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda



In accordance with Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the RID Committee of Experts, the 20th session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group will be held on

27 and 28 May 2026.

Venue

The session will take place at

**OTIF's headquarters
Gryphenhübeliweg 30
3006 Berne
Switzerland**

Rules of Procedure

The Rules of Procedure of the RID Committee of Experts apply *mutatis mutandis* to its working group. The applicable Rules of Procedure of the RID Committee of Experts (RID-24008-CE) are available on [OTIF's website](#).

Provisional agenda

The provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda are attached to this circular as Annex A and Annex B.

According to Article 9 § 2 of the Rules of Procedure, requests to place additional questions on the agenda must be submitted to the Secretary General by no later than **14 April 2026**.

Provisional timetable

The meeting will begin on Wednesday, 27 May 2026 at 09:30 local time in Berne and will end on Thursday, 28 May 2026 by 12:30 at the latest. The 59th session of the RID Committee of Experts will take place on Thursday, 28 May 2026 directly after the 20th session of the standing working group. The invitation to this meeting will be sent separately.

Languages

The working languages will be English, French and German. There will be consecutive interpretation into French and German and simultaneous interpretation into English.

Documents

In accordance with Article 8 § 2 of the Rules of Procedure, documents relating to the session will be made available as soon as possible on OTIF's website under:

https://otif.org/en/?page_id=264.

In accordance with Article 11 § 3 of the Rules of Procedure, official proposals and suggestions must be submitted by no later than **14 April 2026**.

Composition

The standing working group comprises those OTIF Member States which have not made a declaration regarding Appendix C to COTIF in accordance with the first sentence of Article 42 § 1 of COTIF, and regional economic integration organisations which have acceded to the Convention in accordance with Article 38 of COTIF. Member States which have not made a declaration regarding Appendix C to COTIF in accordance with the first sentence of Article 42 § 1 of COTIF are referred to as Contracting States. Member States that are not Contracting States will also be invited to the meeting.

A list of Member States and whether they apply Appendix C to COTIF is attached as Annex C.

Quorum

Even though Article 20 (Quorum) of the Rules of Procedure does not apply to the meeting of this working group, it is requested that as many RID Contracting States as possible take part in order to obtain results that are likely to achieve majority support so that they can be adopted at the 59th session of the RID Committee of Experts on 28 May 2026.

Observers

In accordance with the decision taken by the RID Committee of Experts at its 42nd session, the invited observers are those listed in Annex D to this circular.

Practical information

Hotels in Berne are listed [here](#).

Annex E contains information on how to reach the venue.

Registration

Delegates are kindly requested to register their attendance **by no later than 12 May 2026** using the [online registration form](#).

Aleksandr Kuzmenko
Secretary General

Annexes:

- A – Provisional agenda
- B – Annotated provisional agenda
- C – Application of Appendix C to COTIF
- D – List of invited observers
- E – Practical information

Provisional agenda

Opening of the session

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
3. Review of the draft notification texts
4. Review of questions regarding the interpretation of RID
5. Proposals to amend RID
 - (a) Pending issues
 - (b) New proposals
6. Revision of the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure
7. Involvement of stakeholders
8. RID copyright protection
9. Harmonisation of RID and SMGS Annex 2
10. Information from members of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group
11. Any other business

Closure of the session

Annotated provisional agenda

1. Approval of the agenda

2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

At the 6th session, Ms Caroline Bailleux (Belgium) was elected to chair this standing working group until further notice. At the 10th session, Mr Othmar Krammer (Austria) was elected as Deputy Chair until further notice.

3. Review of the draft notification texts

Taking into account the results of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Berne, 24 - 27 March 2026), the Secretariat will prepare a draft version of the notification texts for the 2027 edition of RID on the basis of document [RID-25039-CE-SWG19](#) from the last session of the standing working group, which will include all the decisions of the 19th session of the standing working group and the final decisions of the Joint Meeting.

4. Review of questions regarding the interpretation of RID

5. Proposals to amend RID

(a) Pending issues

RID-26011-CE-SWG20-5a (Secretariat)	Informal working group on transitional measures relating to the transfer of technical vehicle requirements from RID to the UTPs/TSIs
RID-26015-CE-SWG20-5a (Secretariat)	Decisions of the 119 th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 5 - 8 May 2026)
RID-26017-CE-SWG20-5a (Belgium)	Definition of road vehicle

The following information and documents have been announced:

- Final report of the research project initiated by Germany on the simulation-based investigation of surge behaviour in tanks (see reports [OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2024-B](#), paragraphs 8 and 9 and [RID-26004-CE-SWG19](#), paragraph 12);

(b) New proposals

RID-26012-CE-SWG20-5b (UIC)	Amendment of point 5 of IRS leaflet 40471-3 (Inspections to be carried out in the carriage of dangerous goods)
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6. Revision of the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure

RID-26013-CE-SWG20-6 (Secretariat)	Revision of the RID Committee of Experts' Rules of Procedure
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7. Involvement of stakeholders

RID-26014-CE-SWG20-7 (Secretariat)	Involvement of stakeholders
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8. RID copyright protection

RID-26014-CE-SWG20-8 (Secretariat)	RID copyright protection
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9. Harmonisation of RID and SMGS Annex 2

Questions that might arise as a result of harmonising RID and SMGS Annex 2 will be dealt with under this agenda item.

10. Information from members of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group

RID-26016-CE-SWG20-10 (ERA)	Information from the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)
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11. Any other business

Application of Appendix C to COTIF

RID Contracting States:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| – Afghanistan (voting rights suspended pending the payment of contributions) | – Georgia | – Norway |
| – Albania | – Germany | – Poland |
| – Algeria | – Greece | – Portugal |
| – Armenia | – Hungary | – Romania |
| – Austria | – Iran | – Serbia |
| – Azerbaijan | – Ireland | – Slovakia |
| – Belgium | – Italy | – Slovenia |
| – Bosnia and Herzegovina | – Latvia | – Spain |
| – Bulgaria | – Liechtenstein | – Sweden |
| – Croatia | – Lithuania | – Switzerland |
| – Czech Republic | – Luxembourg | – Tunisia |
| – Denmark | – Monaco | – Türkiye |
| – Estonia | – Montenegro | – Ukraine |
| – Finland | – Morocco | – United Kingdom |
| – France | – Netherlands | |
| | – North Macedonia | |

The OTIF membership of Iraq, Lebanon and Syria is currently suspended.

Member States which have made a declaration regarding Appendix C to COTIF in accordance with the first sentence of Article 42 § 1 of COTIF:

- Republic of Moldova
- Pakistan
- Russia

Regional economic integration organisation:

- European Union

Associate Members¹:

- Jordan

¹ Associate Members are not Contracting Parties to COTIF.

List of invited observers

The following intergovernmental organisations are invited to attend the meeting of the RID Committee of Experts in an advisory capacity (as observers):

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),
- Organization for Cooperation between Railways (OSJD).

The following stakeholders are invited to attend the meeting of the Committee of Experts in an advisory capacity (as observers):

- Cefic – European Chemical Industry Council,
- CEN – European Committee for Standardization,
- CEPE – European Council of the Paint, Printing Ink, and Artist's Colours Industry,
- CIT – International Rail Transport Committee,
- COSTHA – Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles,
- ECFD – European Confederation of Fuel Distributors,
- ECMA – European Cylinder Manufacturers Association,
- EIGA – European Industrial Gases Association,
- EuRIC – Recycling Europe,
- FEA – European Aerosol Federation,
- FEAD – European Waste Management Association,
- FIATA – International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations,
- IASA – International Association of Dangerous Goods Safety Advisors,
- ICCR – International Confederation of Container Reconditioners
- IDGCA – International Dangerous Goods and Container Association
- IRU – International Road Transport Union,
- ITCO – International Tank Container Organisation,
- Liquid Gas Europe,
- RECHARGE – European Association for Advanced Rechargeable Batteries,
- SAAMI – Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute,
- UNIFE – Association of the European Rail Industry,
- UIC – International Union of Railways,
- UIP – International Union of Wagon Keepers
- UIRR – International Union of Combined Road-Rail Transport Companies.

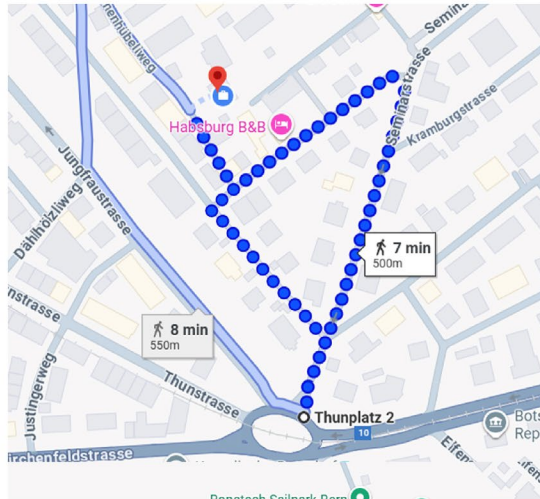
Directions to OTIF

Gryphenhübeliweg 30, CH-3006 Berne

Option 1: Tram + Walk

Take Tram 7 or 8 to Thunplatz.

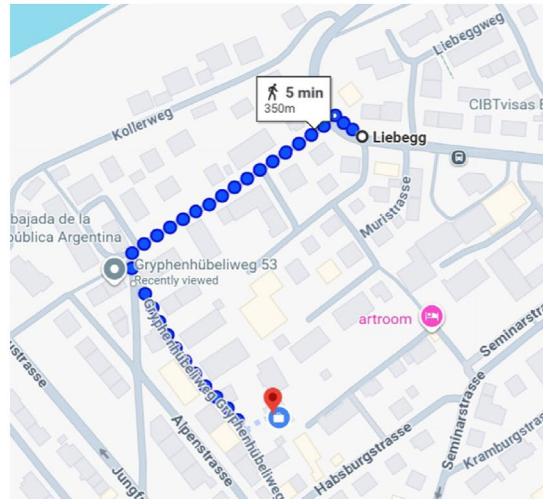
From there, it is a short walk to the OTIF building.



Option 2: Bus + Walk

Take Bus 12 to Liebegg.

From there, it is a short walk to the OTIF building.



Visitors are kindly advised to use public transport, as parking is limited in the vicinity of the building.



OTIF

Organisation intergouvernementale pour les transports internationaux ferroviaires
Zwischenstaatliche Organisation für den internationalen Eisenbahnverkehr
Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail