TO THE MEMBER STATES AND ASSOCIATED MEMBERS OF OTIF AND TO REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE ACCEDED TO COTIF

11th Session of the RID Committee of Experts’ standing working group

(Vienna, 25 to 29 November 2019)
TIME OF THE MEETING

1. The Secretariat of OTIF is pleased to be able to invite you to the 11th session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group to be held from 25 to 29 November 2019. The meeting will start at 10.00 on 25 November 2019 and will end at 13.00 on Friday, 29 November 2019.

VENUE

2. The meeting will be held at:

   Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (BMVIT)
   (Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie – BMVIT)
   Radetzkystraße 2
   A-1030 Vienna

   The meeting room EA08 is on the ground floor.

   Maps showing the location of the Ministry and the meeting room are attached at annex.

HOTEL

3. The Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology is currently trying to pre-book a certain amount of rooms in a nearby hotel. The address of this hotel and the booking code will be published shortly in an informal document on the OTIF website.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

4. In accordance with Article 22 § 3 of the RID Committee of Experts’ Rules of Procedure, the Rules of Procedure will be applied analogously at meetings of the standing working group and temporary working groups.

5. In connection with Article 5 § 2 of these Rules of Procedure, the RID Committee of Experts decided to invite the same organisations and associations to the meetings of the RID Committee of Experts as are invited to the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting.


LANGUAGES

7. The working languages will be English, French and German. There will be consecutive interpretation into German and French and simultaneous interpretation into English. In order to ensure the broadest possible harmonisation of RID and SMGS Annex 2, there will also be simultaneous interpretation into Russian for the experts on SMGS Annex 2.
PROVISIONAL AGENDA

8. Based on the information and proposals available so far the Secretariat of OTIF proposes the following provisional agenda:

ITEM 1: Approval of the agenda

ITEM 2: Presence

ITEM 3: Harmonisation with the 21st edition of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

ITEM 4: Interpretation of RID

ITEM 5: Proposals to amend RID
   a) Pending issues
   b) New proposals

ITEM 6: Report of the working group on tank and vehicle technology

ITEM 7: Harmonisation of RID and SMGS Annex 2

ITEM 8: Information from the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA)

ITEM 9: Any other business

COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTATION

9. The working documents and informal documents for this session of the standing working group can be downloaded from OTIF’s website.

10. The following topics should be discussed under the various items of the agenda. Further topics may be added on the basis of documents still to be received.

ITEM 2: 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 56th session of the RID Committee of Experts at the end of May 2020.

At the 6th session, Mrs Caroline Bailleux (Belgium) was elected as chair of this standing working group until further notice. At the 10th session, Mr Othmar Krammer (Austria) was elected as the deputy chair until further notice.
ITEM 3: After the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Geneva, 17 - 27 September 2019), the Secretariat will produce a consolidated document with all the texts adopted by the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting in 2018 and 2019.

The Secretariat will also prepare a document containing the decisions of the 107th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 11 - 15 November 2019) which might have an impact on RID.

The following document has also been announced:

– Proposal from Belgium on the definition of "Operator of a tank-wagon". This proposal is linked to the amendments to the definition of "Operator of a tank-container or portable tank" to be discussed by the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Geneva, 17 - 27 September 2019).

ITEM 4: So far, no documents are available for this agenda item.

ITEM 5 a): The following items from previous sessions of the standing working group are still open:

– Proposals to revise Chapter 1.9 (see OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2015-A, paragraphs 18 to 29);

– Possible new proposal from Sweden concerning the protective distance (see OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2017-A, paragraphs 25 to 28).

ITEM 5 b): So far the following document has been announced for this agenda item:

– Proposal from Belgium on the design type approval certificate of a tank as part of the technical documents for the tank-wagon approval procedure. This proposal is linked to the amendments to Chapter 6.8 and RID 1.8.6 and 1.8.7 to be discussed by the Joint Meeting in relation to the testing and certification of tanks.

ITEM 6: Under this agenda item, the results of the 17th session of the working group on tank and vehicle technology (Ludwigshafen, 14 - 16 October 2019) will be discussed (see OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2018-B, paragraphs 27 to 35).

ITEM 7: Under this agenda item, the representative of Russia will provide information on the progress of work on the new Chapter 6.20 of SMGS Annex 2 (Construction and testing provisions for 1520 mm gauge tank-wagons) and address the questions that this work has raised in terms of the construction and testing provisions for standard gauge tank-wagons.
ITEM 8: ERA will submit information on this standing agenda item in an informal document. The Member States are asked to make any requests concerning the content of the information from ERA via the Secretariat.

ITEM 9: So far the following document has been submitted for this agenda item:

| OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2019/1 (Secretariat) | Equivalence of the USA’s construction and testing provisions for tank-wagons |

In addition, the following document has been announced for this agenda item:

– Corrigendum 2 to the 2019 edition of RID.

REGISTRATION

11. Please register your attendance by no later than 8 November 2019 using the online form.

TRAVEL TICKETS

12. Those delegates who intend travelling by train are asked to contact the relevant railway networks directly to obtain any facilitated transport services.

Yours faithfully

(Wolfgang Küpper)
Secretary General

Annexes

– Location maps

cc:

– interested international organisations and associations, as an invitation
– experts on SMGS Annex 2 as an invitation
– railway undertakings, with the request to honour the above-mentioned free travel