OTIF and the GCC “Expert Working Group”

At the invitation of the General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Secretary General of OTIF, Mr Davenne, and the heads of the legal and technical interoperability departments, Mr Kuzmenko and Mr Leermakers, will take part in the “Expert Working Group” to be held in Abu Dhabi on 16, 17 and 18 May 2017.

This working group is part of the major rail project being carried out by GCC and its Member States: Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar.

On 18 May, the Expert Working Group will focus entirely on OTIF and COTIF. As the GCC experts and those of its Member States wish to implement railway regulations that are compatible with the rules of COTIF, they are working actively with experts from the OTIF Secretariat with a view to accession. This was also the context in which Mr Davenne and Mr Leermakers travelled to Dubai for the “MiddleEastRail” conference on 7 and 8 March 2017.

The Secretariat of OTIF welcomes this invitation, which illustrates the vitality of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014.