



CONFERENCE DECLARATION

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AND BARRIERS TO INTERNATIONAL ROAD GOODS TRANSPORT BETWEEN ASIA AND EUROPE

Irkutsk, Russian Federation, 13-14 September 2001

TOGETHER ON THE ROAD TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, WELFARE AND PEACE

The participants of the 1st IRU Euro-Asian Road Transport Conference,

Acknowledging the richness of identities and approaches that exist in the region,

Considering that economic development and mutually beneficial trade exchange are essential tools to achieve mutual understanding, welfare and peace,

Being aware of the key role road transport is playing,

Acknowledging the existence of multiple barriers to road transport, from physical to institutional and legal,

Convinced that a progressive implementation of conditions conducive to the realisation of the full potential of road transport in serving society, economy and trade both at national and international level, should be created,

Invite

in the interest of the development of road transport between the European and Asian Continents.

Governments to

- create, at national level, the necessary institutional, legal and administrative conditions and infrastructure allowing road transport to efficiently serve their national economies and trade exchange,
- work towards the creation of comprehensive and mutually beneficial bilateral and multilateral legal frameworks, in particular in international transport corridors, with harmonised and simplified procedures and practices based on models, which have already proven their advantages in this or other parts of the world, or to implement already existing ones, such as the TIR Convention, the ADR Agreement etc, developed within the framework of the UN/ECE, UN/ESCAP, or other relevant European or Asian institutions or bodies;
- support, consult and cooperate with their own road transport industries, as represented by branch associations.

The road transport operators to

- embark on best practices in the field of safety, environmental protection and adherence to the rules, setting the framework of market competition,
- constantly improve the quality of their services via training and use of best industry practices,
- actively participate in the activities of and support their branch association.

The representative road transport associations to

- promote the interests of their member operators with authorities in the framework of a strategic partnership with them,
- assist their members, and in particular the SMEs, by offering them additional services, such as information, advice and all kinds of associative support they may require from a genuine trade association,
- join/liaise with and actively participate in the activities carried out by the IRU.

The IRU to

- develop, in cooperation with member associations from the region, a short, medium and long-term strategy and measures to promote road transport and reduce/eliminate barriers in the Euro-Asian region;
- step up efforts and devote resources to increase the added value and visibility of its involvement in the region, including via the expansion of the TIR system and the extension of the geographical coverage of its Training Academy;
- work together and assist member associations in the region in creating structures and services that could benefit their members, the road transport operators.

Annex: List of recommended UN/ECE and UN/ESCAP road transport-related legal instruments

List of recommended UN/ECE and UN/ESCAP road transport-related legal instruments

Roads / traffic

- 1 European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries, 15 November 1975 (*AGR*)
- 2 Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (*AGTC*) of 1991, of 1997
- 3 Convention on Road Traffic, of 19 September 1949
- 4 Protocol on Road Signs and Signals, of 19 September 1949
- 5 Convention on Road Traffic, of 8 November 1968
- 6 Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 8 November 1968
- 7 European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Traffic (1968), of 1 May 1971
- 8 European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Signs and Signals (1968), of 1 May 1971
- 9 Protocol on Road Markings, Additional to the European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Signs and Signals, of 1 March 1973
- 10 Agreement on Minimum Requirements for the Issue and Validity of Driving Permits, of 1 April 1975 (*APC*)

Vehicles

- 1 Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approval Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions, of March 1958
- 2 Agreement concerning Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of Such Inspection, of 1997
- 3 Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, of 25 June 1998

Road Transport

- 1 European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport, 1970 (*AETR*)
- 2 Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road, of 19 May 1956 (*CMR*)
- 3 Protocol to the convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by road, 1978 (*CMR*)
- 4 Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Passengers & Luggage by Road, of 1 March 1973 (*CVR*)
- 5 Protocol to the Convention on the contract for the International Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by road (*CVR*), of 5 July 1978

Border Crossing

- 1 Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under cover of TIR Carnets, of 14 November, 1975 (*TIR*)
- 2 Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles, of 18 May 1956
- 3 Customs Convention on Containers, of 2 December 1972
- 4 International Convention on the Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods, 21 October 1982
- 5 Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers Used in International Transport, 21 January 1994

Dangerous Goods + ATP

- 1 European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, of 30 September 1957 (*ADR*)
- 2 Protocol amending article 1 a), article 14 (1) and article 14 (3) of the European Agreement of 30 September 1957 concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, of 28 October 1993
- 3 Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to be Used for such Carriage, of 1 September 1970 (*ATP*)
