

AG/G100507/CRA

Geneva, 16 April 2010

IRU Resolution on ROAD TRANSPORT SECURITY IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

*adopted by the IRU General Assembly
in Geneva on 16 April 2010*

IRU Resolution on Road Transport Security in the Supply Chain

The International Road Transport Union (IRU), representing road transport operators through its 180 Members in 74 countries on 5 continents,

Considering that:

- Since the terrorist attacks in recent years, and in particular those on 11 September 2001, security issues have become a priority for all actors in the supply chain – particularly road transport operators;
- Although terrorist risks must be considered, road transport operators are more directly threatened by other types of activities, which seriously impair the safety of their drivers, vehicles and consignments;
- A study completed in 2008 by the IRU and the International Transport Forum (ITF) has shown that criminal activities are becoming more life-threatening for international road transport operators. In the period from 2000 to 2005, one driver in six has fallen victim to an assault or other form of organised crime, in most cases when the vehicle was parked, in what were later discovered to be insecure service stations or parking areas;
- The current lack of secure parking areas for commercial vehicles and of accurate information about their location significantly increases drivers' risks and makes crime easier to commit;
- At the 8th Symposium of Lawyers, Members of the IRU Legal Assistance Network observed:
 - that there was a lack of political and legal measures taken by States to protect transport against criminals;
 - that crime can only be effectively fought through an increased involvement of governments, in cooperation with the national or international organisations or associations specialising in defending the interests of road transport operators;
 - that national and international security legislation should be agreed and harmonised globally to effectively combat freight thefts and attacks on drivers;

IRU
R
E
S
O
L
U
T
I
O
N

Urgently calls upon governmental authorities to:

- Cooperate with the road transport industry and highway police forces to identify and locate safe parking areas for heavy vehicles and place this information in the relevant databases such as those managed by international organisations such as the ITF and IRU;
- Apply all practicable prevention measures to fight terrorism and other criminal activities at national and international levels, in cooperation with the road transport industry;
- Act to end the related human suffering (stress and frequent injuries of drivers having suffered an attack or assault, theft, stowaway intrusion) and economic losses resulting from poor law enforcement, and develop appropriate tools (secure parking areas, structures to identify perpetrators, etc.) to reduce the effect of road transport crime;
- Encourage transport operators to report each incident to the enforcing authorities and refer all instances of theft / assault to their national – and if necessary European and international – jurisdictions, and organise training on human rights so as to develop case-law on security in road transport;
- Encourage the dissemination and use of the recently developed IRU Standard Incident Reporting Form to enhance the security of supply chain workers, increase international co-operation and information exchange, and improve crime clear up rates;
- Quickly bring the perpetrators of transport crime to justice
- Strengthen the application of all international conventions relating to road transport security, including in particular
 - Use the TIR Convention as a multilateral legal instrument to implement the security requirements of the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards, including regarding Authorised Economic Operator status,
 - Effectively implement the provisions of the UN International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures, and particularly its Annex 8 to reduce crime and fraud and specifically attacks in parking areas and queues at border-crossing points;
 - Reduce the risks involved in the transport of dangerous goods through a more stringent implementation of ADR.
- Develop structures or units to bring together representatives of the police, judicial, tax and customs authorities to identify and punish the perpetrators of transport crime acts.

* * * * *