



## RESOLUTION

### XV International Conference

#### 'International Road Transport: Problems, Solutions, Prospects'

The development and improvement of international road transport systems are the key issues on the agenda of the annual international conference being held by the Association of International Road Transport Hauliers of Ukraine under the auspices of the International Road Transport Union (IRU).

Previous conferences have already addressed, *inter alia*, the need to modernise customs procedures and control mechanisms currently in place at border-crossings, as well as the need to improve road transport conditions generally and the mechanisms and systems in place for international road transport in Eurasia, while continuing to identify and thoroughly analyse the various factors affecting the TIR System.

Participants of this particular conference have again underlined the fundamental and key role of the international road transport industry in international trade and have emphasised the necessity for compliance with international treaties such as the United Nations TIR Convention by all its Contracting Parties.

Many of the speeches delivered during the conference were intended to draw the audience's attention to the fact that increasing volumes of international transport operations as well as the growing importance of international trade for the development of national economies, compel competent governmental bodies to develop more efficient customs procedures and border-crossing control mechanisms.

Indeed, customs authorities are more than mere tax collectors. They now play a key role in the development and deployment by the state of modern control mechanisms where international trade operations are concerned.

**Whereas** it is important to facilitate cooperation between competent state authorities, international transport companies and organisations, and road transport associations, and also to assist international carriers in successfully transporting goods in Eurasia;

**Whereas** it is understood that the development of international transport is crucial for the development of national economies;

**Whereas** border-crossing procedures should be improved and simplified, thereby facilitating international goods transport and ensuring the correct application of the terms of the UN TIR Convention;

**Whereas** it is essential to improve technical standards of road vehicles by replacing current fleets with vehicles complying with international environmental and safety standards;

**Whereas** it is crucial to substantially reduce the number of driver injuries and cargo losses in international transport operations and to enhance the quality of transport services;

**Whereas** it is important to remove, insofar as is possible, the many barriers hampering efficient domestic and international road transport; and

**Whereas** the existing regulatory approval systems in the international road transport sector are a constraint with a negative impact on the economy and on trade,

## The Conference Participants

hereby request that national governments and all parties concerned by the development of international road transport **intensify their cooperation** in order to:

- Bring national legislation in line with international norms and standards established in international UN Conventions and Agreements as well as in international treaties of universal character;
- Ensure strict compliance with the TIR Convention by all its Contracting Parties on the territory of all Contracting Parties, and prevent any breaches thereof;
- Reduce border waiting times for road vehicles, simplify control procedures, introduce international best practice for controls being carried out jointly by various competent authorities, including the mutual recognition of customs controls;
- Further develop the use of the TIR System by maximising the possibilities offered by the framework of the UN TIR Convention, to promote it and to extend its geographical scope to new markets, to study and promote best practices as far as its application is concerned;
- Encourage, insofar as is possible, the widespread use of existing and future TIR-IT risk management tools such as TIR-EPD and Real-Time SafeTIR aimed at a full computerisation of goods transport operations under the TIR procedure, and the use of pilot projects being developed in this respect at international level, such as the UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot;
- Build a regulated road transport market through the standardisation of licensing criteria for road transport;
- Further promote and develop the ECMT and BSEC-PERMIT multilateral quota systems, and progressively liberalise the international road transport industry;
- Simplify visa procedures for professional international drivers and extend the validity of visas already issued;
- Standardise requirements regarding vehicle weight and size, develop the road network and road-side infrastructure;
- Eliminate the practice of discriminatory duties and taxes, unjustified penalties and other requirements of controlling authorities;
- Increase road transport security and improve the quality of professional training for those involved in the road transport industry;
- Enhance regional cooperation so that coordinated solutions to existing problems can be found.

*Done in Odessa, on 10 September 2014*