

## **TIRExB statement on the functioning of the TIR Convention in the Russian Federation after 1 December 2013**

At its 56<sup>th</sup> session (Rome, 3 and 4 December 2013), the TIR Executive Board, the intergovernmental body supervising the application of the TIR Convention, 1975, welcomed the involvement of the government of the Russian Federation leading to the decision by the Federal Customs Service (FCS) to postpone the deadline for the termination of the existing guarantee agreement between FCS and the Association of International Road Carriers (ASMAP) until 1 July 2014.

At the same time, TIRExB noted, with regret, that the FCS continued to impose severe restrictions on the use of TIR Carnets in all regions and almost all Customs offices of the Russian Federation. TIRExB recalled that all intergovernmental bodies of the TIR Convention, including the TIR Administrative Committee, had come to the conclusion that the FCS measures contradict the provisions of the TIR Convention and called for their immediate withdrawal.

TIRExB appealed to the Russian government to ensure that these restrictions are abolished and the principles of international law are respected. TIRExB called for the immediate restoration of the proper functioning of the TIR system on the whole territory of the Russian Federation, as it was before 14 September 2013.

TIRExB requested the TIR secretariat to transmit this statement to the competent Russian authorities and to post it on the UNECE and TIR websites.