



RESOLUTION

XVII International Conference

International Road Transport: Problems, Solutions, Prospects

Aimed at further promoting safe and efficient international road transport of passengers and goods in order to contribute to global economic growth and mobility of people,

welcoming the UN Resolutions adopted at the 70th session, namely, Resolution 70/1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (on 25 September 2015), Resolution 70/197, Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors (on 22 December 2015), and Resolution 70/260, Improving global road safety (on 15 April 2016);

noting that road transport, as the most market oriented and rapid growing mode of transport, plays an important role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), as well as in implementing other initiatives of the UN and international organisations aimed at promoting sustainable transport;

stressing the growing importance of road transport for the development of interregional transport links between Western, Central and Eastern Europe, the Black Sea region, the Middle East and the Asia-Pacific area, in particular the transport corridors of Europe-Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA), and the GUAM Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development, connecting with the Trans-European transport network (TEN-T);

welcoming the accession of the People's Republic of China to the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975);

committed to further modernisation of the TIR Convention, 1975, particularly through computerisation of the TIR procedure, and welcoming the eTIR pilot, run by IRU together with the UNECE;

stressing the need to minimise bureaucratic procedures related to passengers, goods, and vehicles crossing the border, as well as welcoming the promotion of a 'single window' (SW) system;

calling for the creation of favourable conditions for fleet renewal that meet high ecological standards and safety requirements;

reaffirming the need for the ongoing harmonisation of criteria and requirements referred to by international road transport operators when accessing the market of transport services, as well as increasing the scope of multilateral permit systems;

finding it unacceptable and contrary to the provisions of Article V: Freedom of Transit of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as well as to the commitments made in the World Trade Organization, that some states impose limitations on goods and vehicles in transit;

directing attention to national protectionist measures being enforced on foreign transport operators (particularly, the legislation on minimum wage in some EU member states), resulting in a drop in competitiveness and an additional financial burden on transport operators.

Conference participants

hereby request national governments, international organisations, and all stakeholders concerned by the development of sustainable road transport, to call for

- practical steps to implement at the national level the provisions of the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (No. 70/1 of 25 September 2015), Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors (No. 70/197 of 22 December 2015), and Improving global road safety (No. 70/260 of 15 April 2016);
- more intensive coordination of actions aimed at promoting sustainable transport and effectively implementing the SDG, in particular through involvement in the Global Partnership for Sustainable Transport (GPST) activities;
- proactive application of UN facilitation and security instruments (TIR Convention, 1975, Harmonization Convention, 1982), as well as TIR risk management tools, such as SafeTIR, TIR-EPD, iCarnet;

- joining the eTIR pilot, run by IRU together with the UNECE, to implement paperless technologies in the TIR system;
- further updating national legislation to comply with the international provisions and standards contained in UN conventions and agreements, and with international best practices, including the recognition of international certificates of technical inspection and international weight certificates;
- prompt steps for signing at the earliest possible stage bilateral and multilateral agreements on international road transport with the People's Republic of China that shall provide access for foreign transport operators to Chinese freight cargo, and geographical expansion of international road transport in new directions;
- amendments to bilateral intergovernmental agreements on international road transport, by removing transit and bilateral permits for the transport of goods, increasing the scope of multilateral permit systems;
- further promotion of high-quality and safe infrastructure along the international transport and transit corridors, particularly TRACECA, GUAM and the Black Sea Ring Highway corridors, connecting the Trans-European transport network (TEN-T) with the Asian Highway network;
- creation and improvement of high-quality road infrastructure and wayside services to ensure adequate driving and rest times for drivers as well as improving road safety in compliance with the European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR);
- creation of conditions for fair competition and transparent access to the market of transport services, by updating national legislation to comply with the provisions provided by the Quality Charter for International Road Haulage Operations under the ECMT Multilateral Quota System;
- implementation of a 'single window' (SW) system, joint control procedures aimed at reducing downtime for vehicles at national border crossing points and facilitating customs checks;
- facilitation of visa procedures for professional drivers engaged in international road transport operations;

- promotion of energy-efficient and innovative fleets that meet high ecological standards, using the instruments of operational and financial leasing;
- promotion of relevant training programmes for professional drivers aimed at reducing accident rates and the severity of injuries as stipulated in the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020;
- application of IRU Academy standards recognised by the ECMT Quality Charter as a key benchmark that fully meets the requirements for professional qualifications of drivers and managers;
- proactive steps to support freedom of transit in compliance with the WTO rules and principles on the entire Eurasian landmass as the basis for effectively promoting international road transport and connecting landlocked developing countries to global markets, thereby contributing to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024;
- working closely with the relevant authorities of EU member states to introduce a moratorium and subsequently abolish national protectionist measures being enforced on foreign transport operators (particularly, the legislation on minimum wage in some EU member states).

Kiev, Ukraine, 20 October 2016