



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2004/18  
18 August 2004

Original: ENGLISH

---

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

(Thirty-seventh session, 14-15 October 2004,  
agenda item 3 (b) (iv))

**ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE TIRExB <sup>\*/</sup>**

**Administration of the TIRExB**

**Alternative sources of funding for the TIRExB and the TIR secretariat**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. The Administrative Committee, at its thirty-sixth session, took note of Informal document No. 3 (2004), prepared by the secretariat, providing an overview of the UN budget procedures with a view to including the operation of the TIR secretariat in the regular budget of the UN. The Committee had urged the UNECE secretariat to include the operation into the proposals to be submitted for the UN budget cycle 2006-2007 and requested its Chairperson to transmit its statement to the Executive Secretary of the UNECE (TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/73, paras. 23-28).

---

<sup>\*/</sup> The UNECE Transport Division has submitted the present document after the official documentation deadline due to resource constraints.

2. The UNECE Executive Secretary has replied to the request concerning the inclusion of the operation of the TIR secretariat into the regular budget of the UNECE. In a letter dated 25 June 2004, addressed to the Chairperson of the Administrative Committee, the Executive Secretary stated:

"I thank you for your letter dated 7 May 2004 in which you bring to my attention the statement of the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention (AC.2) calling for the inclusion of the operation of the TIR secretariat into the regular budget of the United Nations for the budget cycle 2006-2007.

I wish to assure you that I share the views of the Administrative Committee on the importance of the TIR Convention for facilitating international transport at Pan-European level and beyond, and that I support the work of the TIR competent bodies, including the TIR Executive Board (TIRExB) and the TIR secretariat.

I am sure, however, that you and the Committee are aware of the restrictive budget situation under which the United Nations presently operates. Due to the budget requirements of other UN bodies and regional commissions, it may be difficult for the UNECE, at present, even to arrive at a zero growth budget result.

Nevertheless, based on your request, I will include the operation of the TIR secretariat into the UNECE proposal for the 2006-2007 biennium budget, with the hope that, if not all, at least part of the TIR operation budget can be approved in the final budget for that biennium. Then, we could proceed in a similar manner through future budget cycles.

However, as mentioned in the statement by the TIR Administrative Committee, it will be crucial that the Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention support this request strongly, both at the level of the UNECE and, most particularly, during the budget negotiations that will take place in the UN Fifth Committee in New York in due course."

3. The Administrative Committee may wish to take note of the above letter as well as to be informed by the secretariat about the progress in the budget process.

---