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Item 4 (f) of the provisional agenda

Interpretation of the ATP

Interpretation of article 3

Note by the secretariat

1. Paragraph 1 of article 3 states that "The provisions of article 4 of this Agreement shall apply to all carriage if the point at which the goods are, or the equipment containing them is, loaded on to a rail or road vehicle and the point at which the goods are, or the equipment containing them is, unloaded from the vehicle are in two different States and the point at which the goods are unloaded is situated in the territory of a Contracting Party."
2. This means that ATP applies even when the goods are loaded in the territory of a non-ATP Contracting Party and unloaded in the territory of an ATP Contracting Party, for example goods transported from Algeria to Tunisia or from Switzerland to France.
3. The question is whether this is the correct interpretation of this paragraph and if so how can non-ATP Contracting Parties be obliged to apply an Agreement they are not party to other than by the receiving country refusing the goods unless they are carried in accordance with ATP.