

# Use of TIR and eTIR for inter-modal transit transport operations

UNECE/OSCE International Workshop on Strengthening Security and Interoperability along Euro-Asian Inland Transport Corridors

11-12 December 2019

Tbilisi/Georgia

Didem DIRLIK SONGÜR

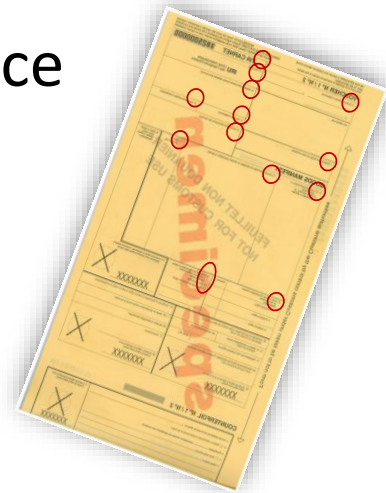
# TIR system

- The TIR Convention establishes an international customs transit system with maximum facility to move goods:
- in sealed vehicles or [containers](#);
- from a customs office of departure in one country to a customs office of destination in another country;
- without requiring extensive and time-consuming border checks at intermediate borders;
- while, at the same time, providing customs authorities with the required security and guarantee

Thus, with its blue logo

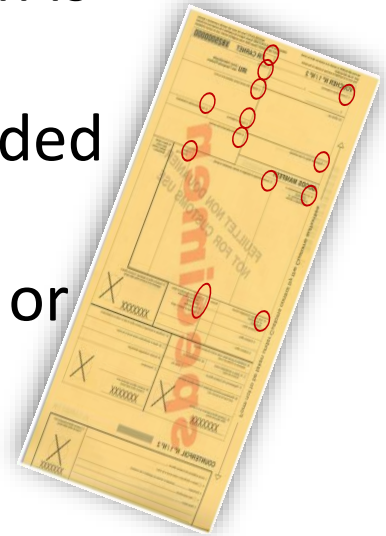


Creates the most known international customs system for road transport

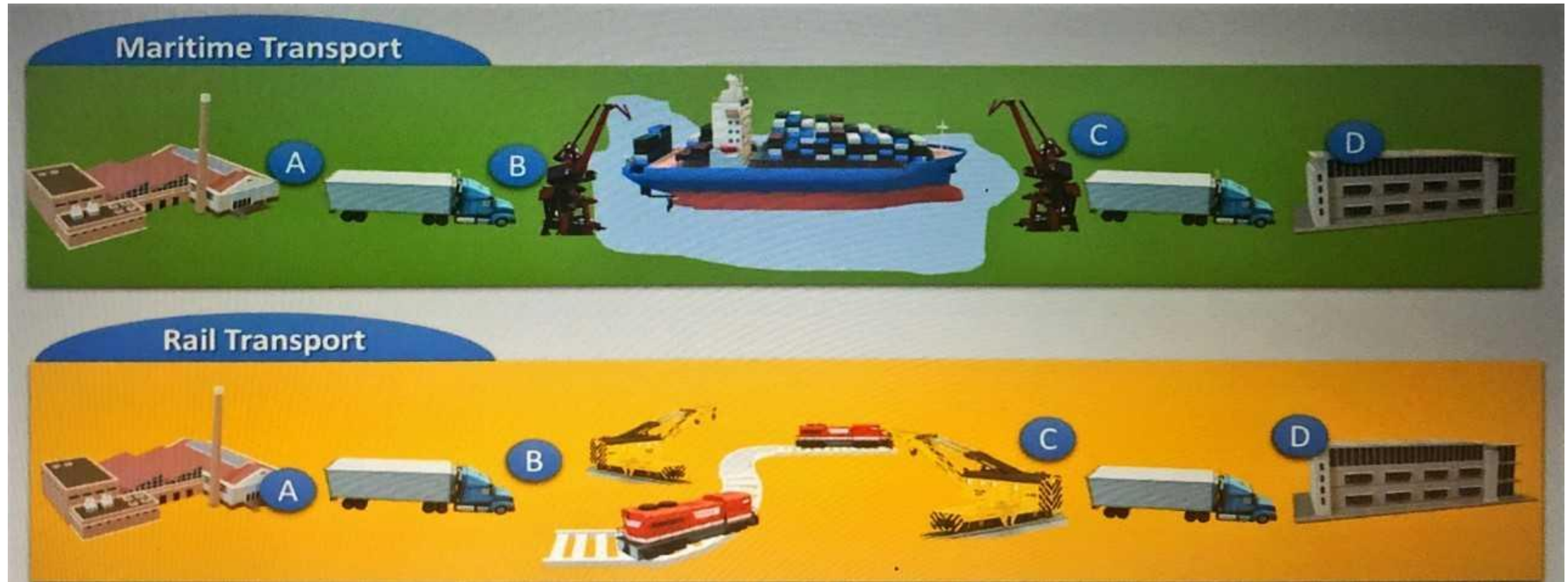


# Inter-modal transit and use of TIR system

- Though TIR system is mostly known for road transport, combination is possible with other modes of transport
- TIR Convention allows for the inter-modal transport of goods provided that at least one leg of the journey is carried out by road;
- During a non-road leg, the TIR guarantee can be either suspended or continued. **the TIR guarantee = TIR Carnet**
- When suspended, the TIR transport can be resumed at the customs office situated at the end of the non-road leg;
- TIR is most frequently used in inter-modal operations in Ro-Ro transport through ferry services, however the interest and volumes of transport of containers under TIR is growing;



Inter-modal requires that two or more modes of transport are used to transport the same loading unit or truck in an integrated manner, without loading or unloading



2 different types of intermodal transport

# Rail transport integration to TIR system

**Various initiatives and projects bring more opportunities for growth of trade :**

- One Belt One Road Initiative
- Baku-Tiflis-Kars (AZ,GE,TR) railway line
- Marmaray sub sea tunnel (TR)
- Iron Silk Road Line
- Trans-Siberian railway



*China Express Railway freight train was hailed and sent off to its final destination to Prague, Ankara, AA photo, 6 November 2019 (First Chinese freight train from Xian to Prague passed through BTK line)*

- Euro-Asian Transport Corridor may benefit more from inter-modal, if rail leg is more linked or commonly used in TIR system
- This will also provide an opportunity for land-locked countries
- High value, time sensitive goods may be shipped with rail and land combination

# Inter-modal transit and use of TIR system

## Challenges:

- There seems to be a lack of knowledge of the treatment of TIR Carnets in case of intermodal transport;
- The difference in contractual regimes and consignment notes between the various modes of transport might impede the use of TIR;
- Market is not aware of the possibility that TIR can be used for inter-modal transport;

**UNECE, in particular TIRExB (TIR Executive Board) is working on a comprehensive strategy to identify the issues rendering use of TIR system for inter-modal transport**

**The study foresees to eliminate the bottlenecks and to come up with recommendations to promote inter-modal transit**

**At the same time, some countries together with business sector conduct pilot consignments to show that inter-modal transit is feasible in TIR system**

# Future of the TIR system

## *I- Geographical Expansion*



## *II-Computerization* e-TIR Pilot Projects+ Annex 11

# Geographical expansion of the TIR system

TIR System: 76 Contracting Parties:

## **Recent Accessions/Activations (2016-2019):**

Pakistan

Qatar

➤ **New business opportunities**

China

Saudi Arabia

➤ **possible new corridors**

India

Argentina

United Arab Emirates

Oman

Palestine

**if use of different modes of transport are linked**



# Challenges/Cross-cutting issues to foster inter-modal transport

- **Sub-contractors:** essential part of the inter-modal transport of containers- though widely used in terms of TIR Convention, it is not clearly defined in the Convention, and some countries do not accept use of sub-contractors due to concerns of liability in case of infringements
- **Authorized consignee/consignor :**  
To provide a common understanding to these widely used concepts, deliberations are still ongoing at the TIR bodies of the UNECE
- **eTIR**-adoption of the optional Annex 11 to the TIR Convention- **expected for February 2020**

**THESE ISSUES NEED TO BE RESOLVED TO BENEFIT FROM A REAL BOOST**

# eTIR: Future of the TIR system

Legal & Technical Studies- Draft  
Annex 11 to the TIR Convention:

**Paperless environment**

# eTIR pilot projects

## Turkey - Iran eTIR Pilot Project → C2B2C

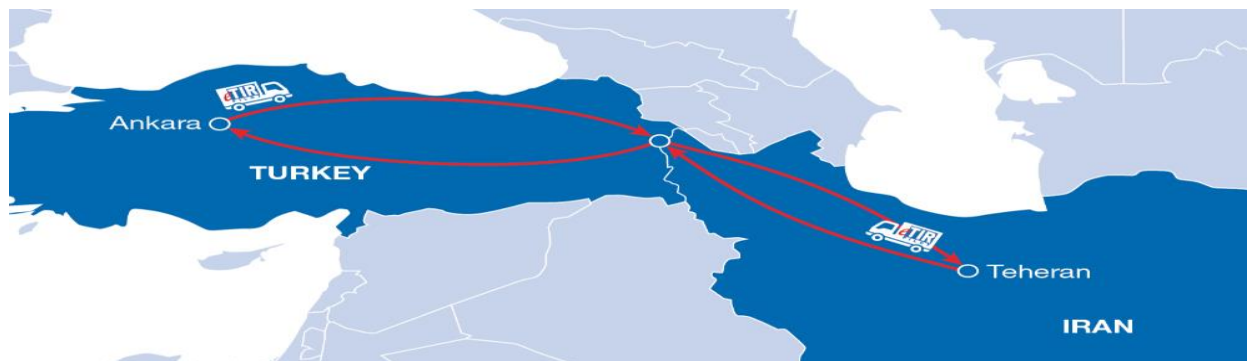
Developed by the UNECE & IRU

**(Public-Private Partnership)**

(TIR EPD-Real Time SAFE TIR / e-guarantee)

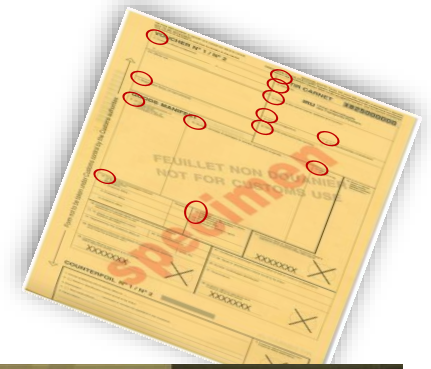
Feasibility of a **Paper-less TIR Procedure** while minimizing costs by using, to the extent possible, existing infrastructures + **Risk Analysis**

*Paper Version Printed and used as Accompanying Document : Print at-home solution*



# Turkey - Iran eTIR Pilot Project

→ C2B2C



## First Phase: Limited Scope

- ToR, 26th Oct, 2015
- Pre-test Run, 5th Nov, 2015
- Pilot Test Launch, 27th November 2015
- Feedback

2 Companies/BCPs/Internal Customs Offices



**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
for the  
**UNECE/IRU eTIR PILOT PROJECT**  
between the  
**Islamic Republic of Iran**  
and the  
**Republic of Turkey**



### 9. SIGNATORIES

On behalf of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Mr. Christian Felix Bach  
Executive Secretary

Date: 27/1/2015

On behalf of the International Road Transport Union (IRU)

Mr. Umberto de Pretto  
Secretary General

Date: 24.09.15

On behalf of the Customs administration of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Dr. Masoud Karbasian  
Deputy Minister, President of Iran Customs

Date: 26/10/2015

On behalf of the Customs administration of the Republic of Turkey

Mr. Cengiz Aşçı  
Minister of Customs and Trade

Date: 28/09/2015

On behalf of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCA/MA)

Mr. Mohsen Jalilpour  
President

Date: 26/10/2015

On behalf of the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB)

Mr. Rifat Hürrekinlioğlu  
President

Date: 26/10/2015



# Turkey -Iran eTIR Pilot Project → C2B2C:

eGuarantee application – big success

## 2nd Phase: Extended Environment

(started in September 2016-Completed in Feb, 2017)  
Report Revealed)

- + Transport Companies
- + Un/Loading Customs Offices



# eTIR Pilot Projects

## Turkey-Georgia eTIR Pilot Project



# C2C



Bilge

CEP (UNECE)

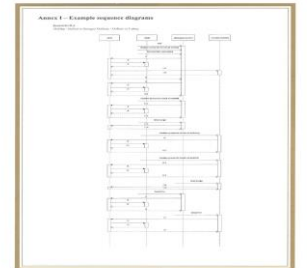
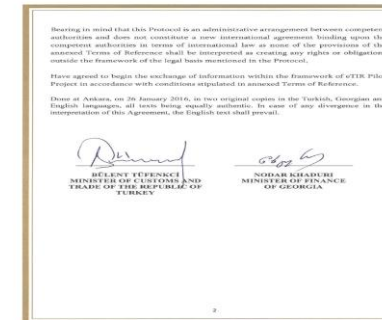
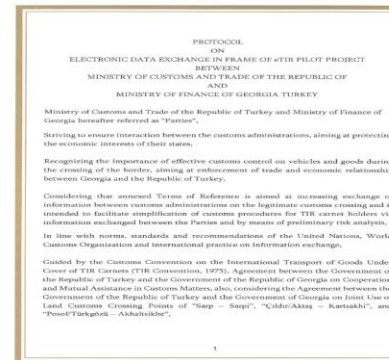


Georgian ASYCUDA

- Technical Negotiations–Data Mapping
- 26 January 2016, ToR  
(Protocol, signed on **International Customs Day: Digital Customs**)

- Operational: 18 May 2018

C2C data exchange takes place through Central Exchange Platform (CEP) hosted by UNECE



# eTIR Pilot Projects

Azerbaijan- Iran eTIR Pilot Project → C2B2C

**eGuarantee**

*( Public-Private Partnership )*

(TIR EPD-Real Time SAFE TIR / eGuarantee)

Developed by the UNECE & IRU

Operational since Summer 2019

10 eGuarantees issued

9 eGuarantees used



**Continues with success**

# eTIR Pilot Projects

## ***Further Plans:***

Turkey and Iran: negotiating a MOU to expand the scope of the eTIR pilot project

Some countries express their willingness to launch multilateral eTIR projects or eTIR intermodal projects

*UNECE- intensifying work for connection of country national systems to platforms hosted by ECE.*



# eTIR provides the opportunity for widespread use of inter-modal transport

- The introduction of the eTIR system will provide solutions needed to the issues at stake
- a seamless TIR information flow will allow all actors along the route of a TIR transport to obtain the information they require, not only in electronic form but also, in most cases, prior to the arrival of the goods.
- the submission of declaration in electronic format will allow TIR Carnet holders to submit declarations at distance.
- New applications will replace current paper procedures necessary for inter-modal transport.

**THUS, MORE FACILITATED PROCEDURES for Operators+ More SECURE SYSTEM for Government Authorities**

**Speeding up the process of  
digitilization is crucial and beneficial  
for all TIR Stakeholders**



*QUESTIONS?*

*THANK YOU*

**Didem DIRLIK SONGÜR**

*Phone: +995 422 276 638*

*Fax: +995 422 270 633*

*E-mail: [d.dirlik@ticaret.gov.tr](mailto:d.dirlik@ticaret.gov.tr)*

**Promotion of use of intermodal is crucial  
for all TIR and eTIR stakeholders**