



**Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
UNECE Workshop
on
Border crossing facilitation: the facilitation potential of the
“Carnet” Conventions**

4 November 2014, 13.15-14.45, Room 4

Supported by the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT), the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and the International Road Transport Union (IRU)



Background

Lack of access to the sea, remoteness from major markets, inadequate transit facilities, cumbersome customs and border-crossing procedures, regulatory constraints, as well as weak legal and institutional arrangements and inefficient logistics systems in the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and transit countries continue to undermine LLDCs' efforts to be competitive in global markets.

These structural and geographical handicaps are preventing LLDCs from fully harnessing the potential of trade as an engine for sustainable and inclusive development. As such, they need to be addressed as called for by the Almaty Programme of Action.

The United Nations border crossing facilitation legal instruments and in particular the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975) and the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, (1954) can play an important role in addressing some of the issues in international transport of freight and mobility of people relevant for the LLDCs.



The Conventions establish an international guaranteeing chain to cover import duties and taxes at stake. The international guarantee is managed by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) for the TIR carnet and by the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (AIT) and the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) for the Carnet de passages en douane (CPD).

Objectives of the event

The side-event will endeavor to demonstrate that the “Carnet” Conventions, although concluded decades ago, are still very much relevant; their use in some LLDCs is widespread and indispensable. However, they still have even further facilitation potential not only for current users but also for other LLDCs that could accede to them.

Time, venue, lunch

Time: 4 November 2014, 13.15-14.45
 Venue: M Building of the Vienna International Center (VIC), Vienna, Room M4

At the start of the side event a sandwich lunch is offered to the participants by AIT and FIA.



Target group

The event will address officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as from other Ministries (e.g. Transport, Trade, Finance, Development,) and agencies dealing with these matters. Although Customs representatives may be invited, they are not the main target group. Speakers will be asked not to use very technical customs language and terminology.

Language: English

Documentation

Brochures and specimens of the carnets

Implementation

- Presenting the Conventions comprehensively possibly with the assistance of short movie clips
- Reporting on the practical use of the Conventions in LLDCs (expert from Africa for CPD)
- Providing information and handing out leaflets

Preliminary Agenda		
13.15-13.25	Welcome/Opening Speeches	UNECE, FIA, IRU
13.25-13.40	Introduction to the UN Facilitation Conventions and more on “The Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975)”	UNECE
13.40-14.00	Experience of LLDCs with TIR	IRU
14.00-14.15	Introduction to the “Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954”	FIA
14.15-14.35	Experience of LLDCs with CPD (carnet de passage en douanes)	AIT FIA (expert from LLDC)
14.35-14.45	Questions and answers/ conclusions	

More information can be found at:
<http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome.html>
http://www.unece.org/trans/theme_facilitation.html
<http://www.unece.org/tir/welcome.html>
<http://www.fia.com/mobility-world-motion/cpd>
https://www.iru.org/en_iru_about_tir