IRU RESOLUTION ON THE USE OF THE TIR
CONVENTION TO IMPLEMENT WCO SAFE

unanimously adopted by the IRU General Assembly

in Istanbul on 15 May 2008

IRU Resolution on the use of the TIR Convention to implement the requirements of the
WCO SAFE Framework of Standards including the AEO status

Whereas

• After 11 September 2001, security issues have become a top priority for all.

• To improve the security of the international supply chain of goods, the World Customs
Organisation (WCO), under mandate of the G7, published, at the end of 2007, the WCO
SAFE Framework which incorporated the technical guidance for the implementation of
all AEO requirements to obtain the AEO status.

• All these new security requirements must be implemented, country by country, as from
1 January 2009.

• All IRU analyses, including the results of the Road Freight Transport Security Seminar
held in Geneva on 17 September 2007, concluded very clearly that the TIR Convention
is the best tool to fully implement, on the basis of Customs to Customs mutual
recognition of the appropriate procedures and controls, all the security requirement
standards set by the WCO SAFE Framework, including those for the implementation of
the AEO status.

• A study recently commissioned by the US Chamber of Commerce also came to the
same conclusion that the TIR Convention, due to the fact that it is the only convention
providing mutual recognition of all customs controls between all its 56 Contracting
Parties, is the best multilateral legal instrument to implement all the security
requirements of the WCO SAFE Framework, including those concerning the AEO
status.


Therefore

The IRU and its Member Associations, recognising the paramount importance of effectively improving security, without penalising facilitation, of the international supply chain of goods globally:

- reiterate their full commitment to implement the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards, to achieve this objective;
- insist that, in the interest of trade facilitation, it is essential to avoid the proliferation of restrictive regulations and uncoordinated national and regional security initiatives to implement the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards, including the AEO status;
- call upon governments, competent authorities, and international institutions and organisations like the European Commission, the WCO, and the UNECE, as well as road transport’s commercial partners, such as Chambers of Commerce, shippers and forwarders to:
  - Promote the use of the TIR Convention, as the best multilateral tool to fully implement the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards, including the AEO status in an harmonised and effective manner, and
  - Promote the introduction in the TIR Convention and its annexes without delay the necessary minor adjustments to the TIR Convention to fully cover all the requirements of the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards, including those concerning AEO status.

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