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## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Inland Transport Committee**

#### **Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport**

##### **133rd session**

Geneva, 5–8 February 2013

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Activities of other organizations and countries of interest  
to the Working Party: European Union**

### **Activities of the European Union**

#### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **I. Common transit convention**

1. The Convention of 20 May 1987 on a Common Transit and the Convention of 20 May 1987 on the simplification of formalities in trade of goods has been extended on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2012 to Croatia and on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2012 to Turkey. No major difficulties have been reported.

#### **II. TIR transit system for goods transport under Customs control within the EU.**

2. A Member of the European Parliament questioned the European Commission on reinstating the use of the TIR transit system for goods transport under Customs control within the EU. The Commissioner for Taxation and the Customs Union Mr Šemeta answered that there is no need, neither from a legal nor from a Customs policy point of view, to revert to a situation which predated the introduction of the internal market. Moreover, the absence of internal borders excludes the possibility of using TIR Carnets for EU internal transports.

(<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-%2f%2fEP%2f%2fTEXT%2bWQ%2bE-2012-005295%2b0%2bDOC%2bXML%2bV0%2f%2fEN&language=EN>)

### **III. Proposal for stronger controls on drug precursors**

3. Stronger controls on drug precursors used in heroin and methamphetamine production have been proposed by the Commission in September.

The proposals will now have to be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council.

([http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_Customs/resources/documents/Customs/Customs\\_controls/drugs\\_precursors/legislation/com\(2012\)521\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_Customs/resources/documents/Customs/Customs_controls/drugs_precursors/legislation/com(2012)521_en.pdf))

### **IV. Action Plan to combat IPR infringements**

4. The EU Council of Ministers on 10 December adopted the Action Plan to combat Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) infringements.

The strategic objectives of this Action Plan are the following:

- Effectively implementing and monitoring the new EU legislation on Customs enforcement of IPR;
- Tackling major trends in trade of IPR infringing goods;
- Tackling trade of IPR infringing goods throughout the international supply chain.

([http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_Customs/Customs/Customs\\_controls/counterfeit\\_piracy/commission\\_initiatives/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_Customs/Customs/Customs_controls/counterfeit_piracy/commission_initiatives/index_en.htm))

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