Item 4.4 Identification, isolation and elimination of major bottlenecks along international transport routes

21th SPECA TWG STTC, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

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Content

- **Harmonization Convention**
- **TIR Convention**
- **Customs-to-Customs electronic information exchange (UNDA Project)**
- **OSCE-UNECE Handbook**

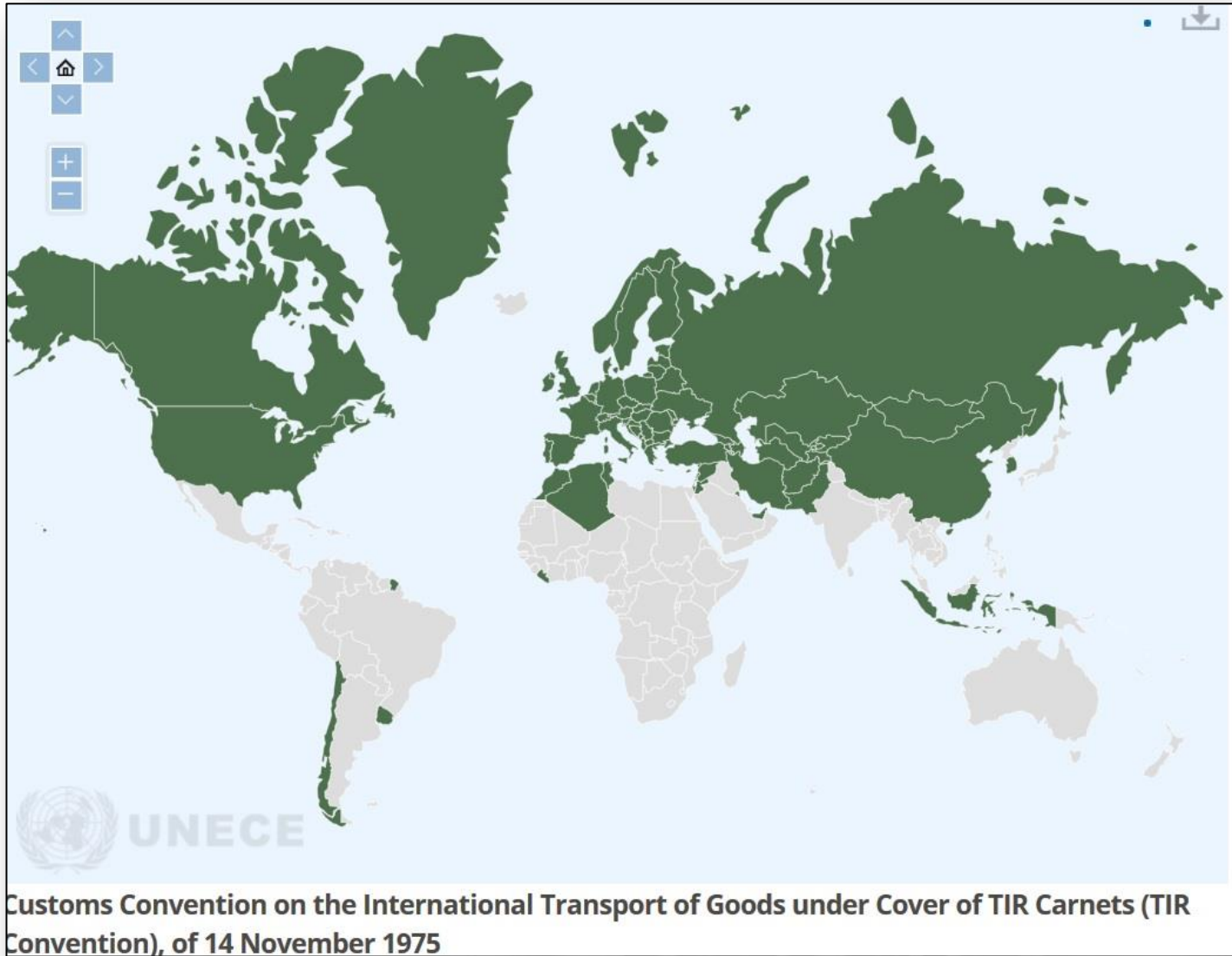# Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)

- 55 Contracting parties, all SPECA countries except Afghanistan

- Latest survey on the implementation of Annex 8 on road border crossing launched in November 2014.

- The first International Vehicle Weight Certificate was issued in the Republic of Moldova (September 2014) – Georgia and Ukraine were first to accept IVWC

- WP.30 start with development of Annex 10 to address facilitation of maritime port procedures (June 2016)

Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982)

- 55 Contracting parties, all SPECA countries except Afghanistan

- Annex 9 on rail border crossing to the Harmonization Convention entered into force on 30 November 2011 – key principles for facilitation of border crossing procedures for international rail freight

  - Analysis on monitoring of the provisions (WP.30, November 2015)

  - Action Plan approved (cooperation with OSJD and OTIF)

TIR Convention (1975)

Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), of 14 November 1975

TIR Convention (1975)

Objectives

- Border crossing facilitation through an internationally recognized and harmonized procedure

- Effective revenue protection and security without excessive administrative burden for customs and time/cost losses for operators

Governing Bodies

- Administrative Committee (AC.2)

- TIR Executive Board

- TIR Secretary

- TIR Secretariat

TIR Convention (1975)

- Accession of Pakistan (2015) and China (July 2016)

- New Group of Experts on the Legal Aspects of the computerization of the TIR procedure established (16-17 November 2015)

- eTIR pilot Project between Turkey and Iran launched in November 2015, second phase started in August 2016

- Second eTIR project between Georgia and Turkey started in January 2016 – partly implemented within C2C UNDA project

- National Technical Workshop on Electronic Customs and Transport Data Exchange was organized in Tajikistan (Dushanbe, May 2016) – Road map for establishment of EDE
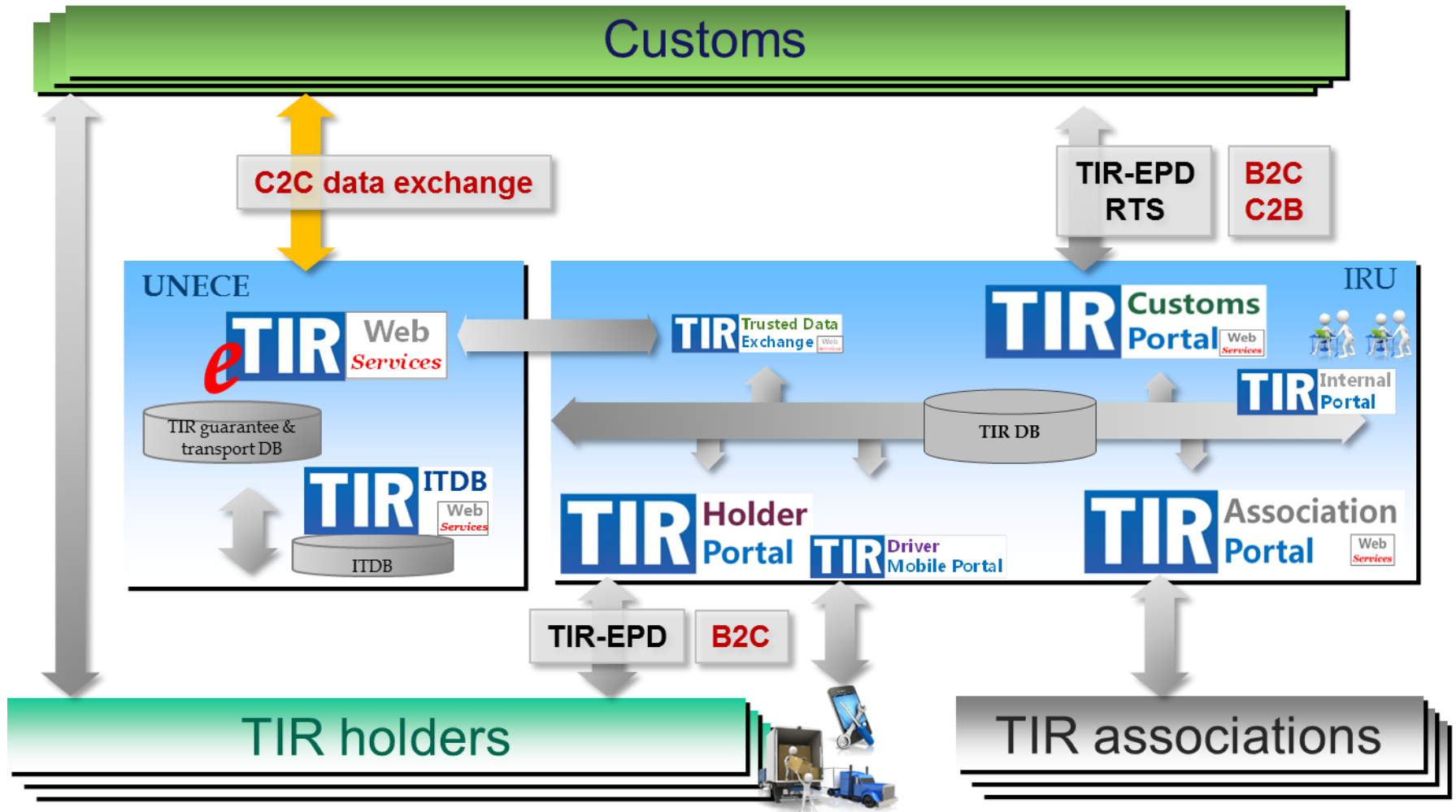
The practice : the eTIR pilot projects

- UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot project between Iran and Turkey

- Georgia-Turkey eTIR pilot project

eTIR high-level architecture

eTIR pilot projects outcomes

- The UNECE-IRU eTIR pilot has demonstrated that the paper TIR Carnet can be replaced by an exchange of electronic messages for C2C data exchange and proof of guarantee.

- All parties involved (including transport operators) expressed great
satisfaction and want to continue and extend the project.

- The eTIR pilot project between Georgia and Turkey will demonstrate the feasibility of using a generic exchange platform for C2C data exchange.

- Main challenges ahead:

  - prepare legal provisions, including the replacement of paper signatures by an electronic alternative valid internationally;

  - finance more resilient IT infrastructures.

UNDA C2C electronic data exchange

- US$ 750,000

Project Title:	Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration
Duration:	Three years (2013-2015)
Beneficiary Countries:	Developing countries and countries with economies in transition, particularly Contracting Parties to the TIR Convention
Executing Entity:	UNECE/Transport Division
Co-operating Agencies:	ESCAP, ESCWA, ECA, ECLAC
Project code:	1213AA

UNDA C2C Status

Activities	Status
Gap analyses	Completed in all regions
1st inter-regional Expert Group meeting	8 December 2014: pilot countries selected and objectives defined
Development and deployment of a secure C2C versatile electronic exchange platform	Completed ***Will be presented today***
Provision of technical assistance to undertake actual C2C exchange of transit data or devise action plans.	***Will be presented today by all RC***
Technical workshops to build capacity in the field of C2C exchange	ECLAC - San José – 16-17 June 2015 UNECE - Tbilisi – 22-23 June 2015 ECLAC - Issyk Kul – 7-8 Sept. 2015 ECA / ESCWA – Casablanca – 2-4 Dec. 2015
2nd inter-regional Expert Group meeting and Seminar: to evaluate and promote the results of the project and, more generally, the benefits of C2C exchange of transit information and the adoption of standards	Geneva, 20-22 June 2016

UNECE sub-project

- Gap Analysis of Current Legal and Technical Framework for Electronic C2C Exchange of Transit Information between Georgia and Neighboring Countries

- Customs-to-Customs Data Exchange Workshop - Tbilisi - June 22-23,
2015

- Georgia-Turkey eTIR pilot project

  – 2 Technical meetings (March and November 2015)

  – Terms of Reference (ToR)

  – Project virtual space (Confluence)

  – Technical assistance to Georgia Customs

Advantages for Georgia and Turkey

First step towards the technical integration of the eTIR international system before it is fully developed and implemented:

- Early adoption and use of eTIR messages based on the eTIR Reference Model (and tested by means of the exchange platform)

- C2C communication channel established via the exchange platform (improved cooperation between participating countries)

- An important step toward the integration of eTIR with risk assessment procedures.

OSCE-UNECE Handbook (2012)

- 9 chapters and 2 Annexes

- 265 pages in total

- More than 120 international best practice examples and case studies

- Available at:

http://www.unece.org/trans/
publications/wp30/
best_practices.html

Handbook of Best Practices
at Border Crossings –
A Trade and Transport
Facilitation Perspective

Thank you

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