

# "Implementation of the eTIR International System in the ESCWA region"

ورشة عمل تدريبية حول

"تطبيق النموذج الالكتروني لاتفاق النقل الدولي العابر للحدود (eTIR) عن بعد، 16 و 17 كانون الأول/ديسمبر 2020"

**eBeirut, 16-17 December 2020**

**Konstantinos Alexopoulos**

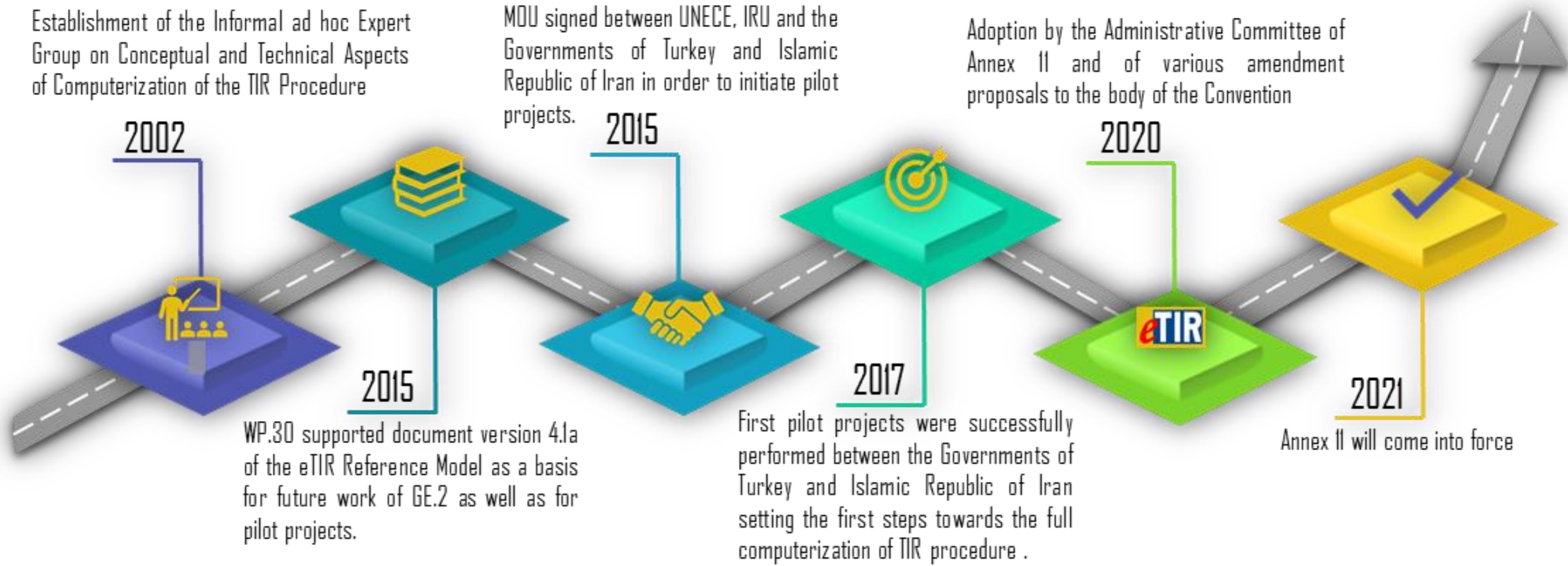
TIR Secretary

Chief Transport Facilitation and Economics

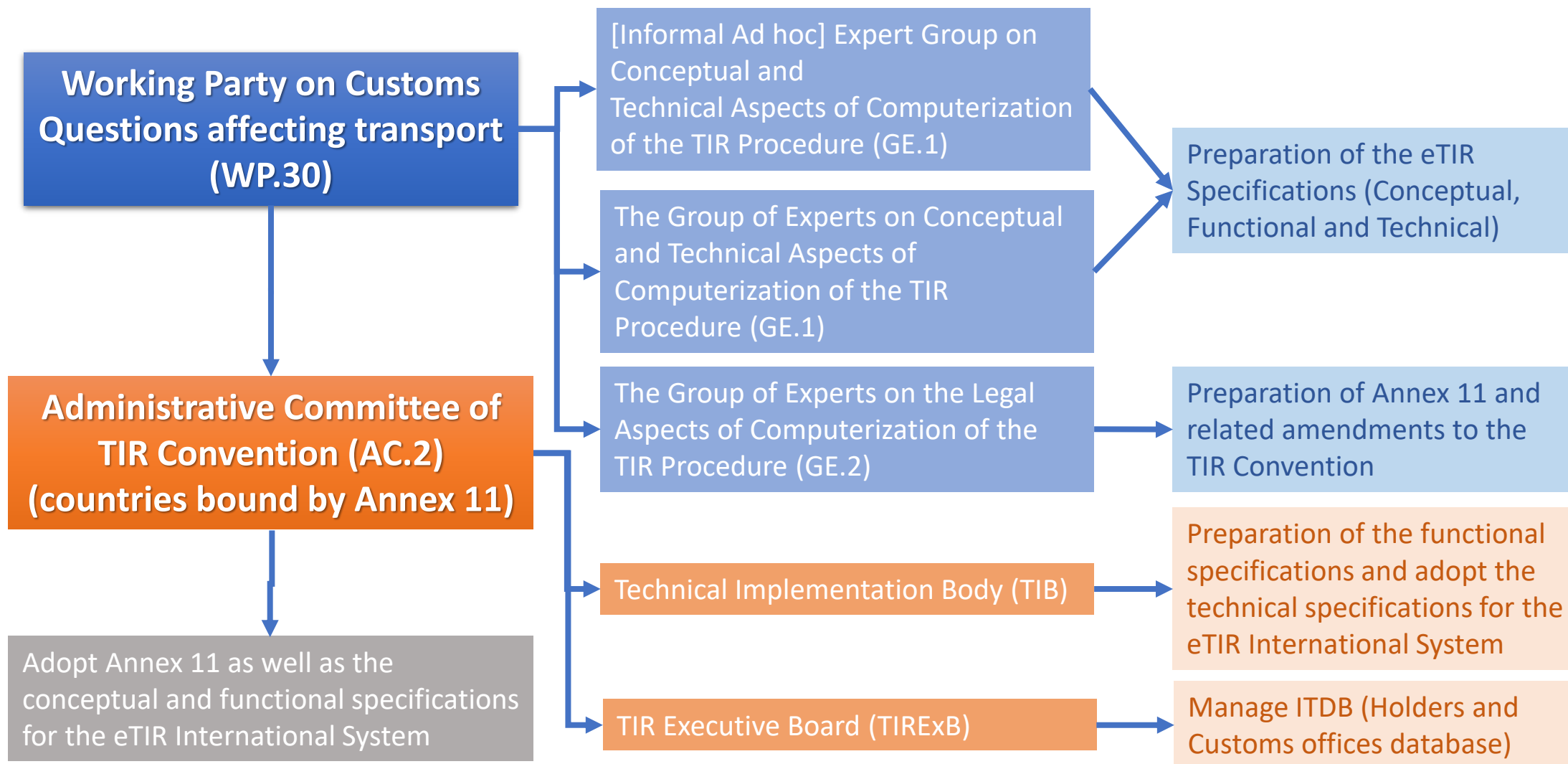
Sustainable Transport Division

UNECE





# ECE Intergovernmental Bodies roles about eTIR



The Group of Experts on  
Conceptual and Technical  
Aspects of  
Computerization of the  
TIR Procedure (GE.1)

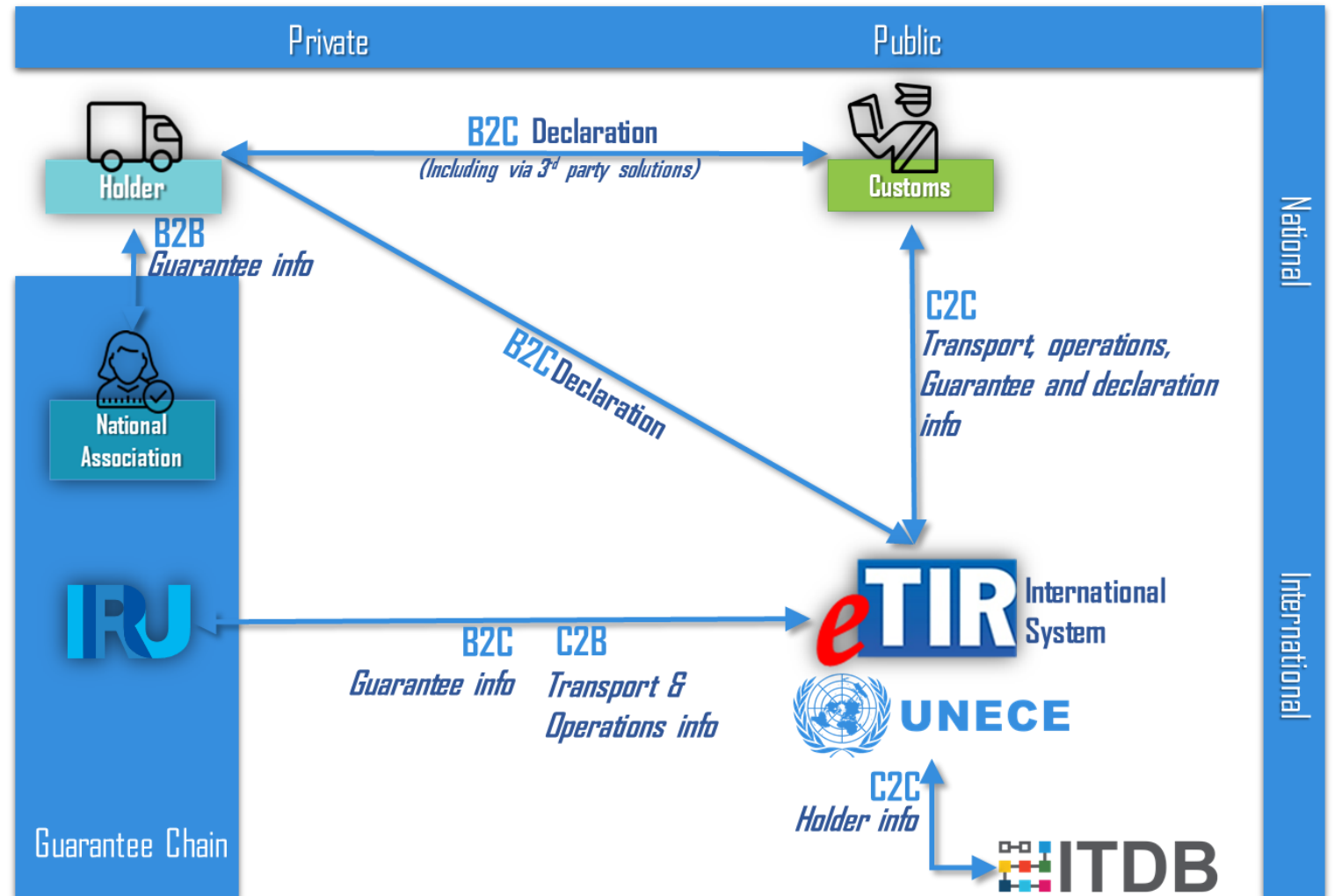
**1 session: 20-22 January 2020**

**Agenda / Documents:**

<https://unece.org/transport/events/wp30ge1-group-experts-conceptual-and-technical-aspects-computerization-tir>

**Registration:** <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=WHctOv>

The eTIR international system aims to ensure the secure exchange of data between national Customs systems related to the international transit of goods, vehicles or containers according to the provisions of the TIR Convention and to allow Customs to manage the data on guarantees, issued by guarantee chains to holders authorized to use the TIR system (Customs to Customs).

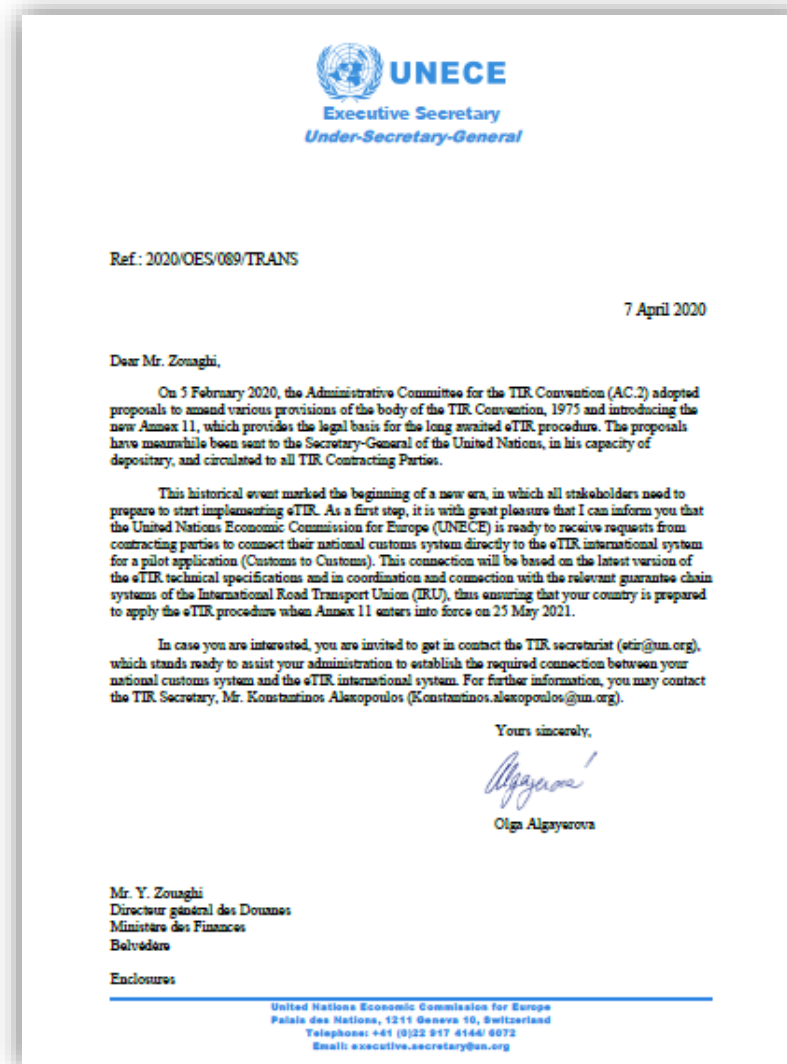




# Invitation to interconnect to eTIR

8 April 2020, letter of ECE Executive Secretary Mrs. Olga Algayerova to all Head of Customs of TIR Convention contracting parties inviting them to start interconnection with eTIR International System.

16 Contracting Parties + EU (28 member States)



Do you need funds to interconnect your National Customs Systems with TIR International System?

## Transport and trade connectivity in the age of pandemics

UN solutions for contactless, seamless and collaborative transport and trade



A joint project that will implement United Nations solutions, including standards, guidelines, metrics, tools and methodologies to immediately help governments, including Customs and other border agencies, port authorities, and the business community world-wide, to keep transport networks and borders operational to facilitate the flow of goods and services, while containing the further spread of the COVID-19 virus.

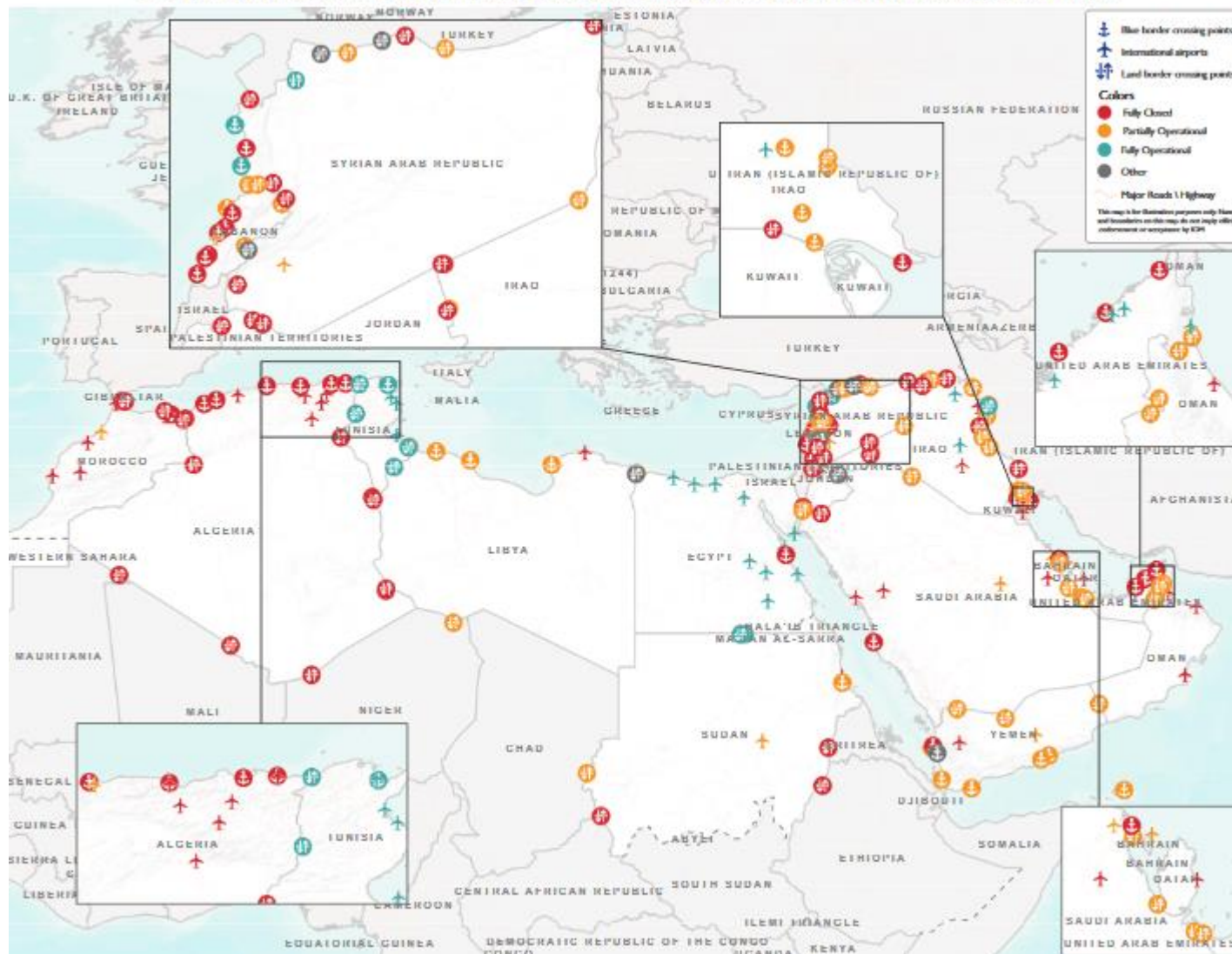
Implementing entities:

Lead agencies: ECE, ESCAP, UNCTAD. Additional partner agencies: ECA, ECLAC, ESCWA

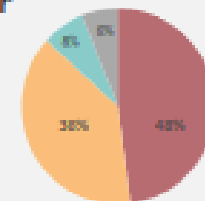
FINAL Concept note submitted to DESA – 5 May 2020

# COVID 19 Border Crossing in ESCWA region

Overview of monitored International Airports, Land border crossing points and Blue border crossing points in MENA



Land border crossing points

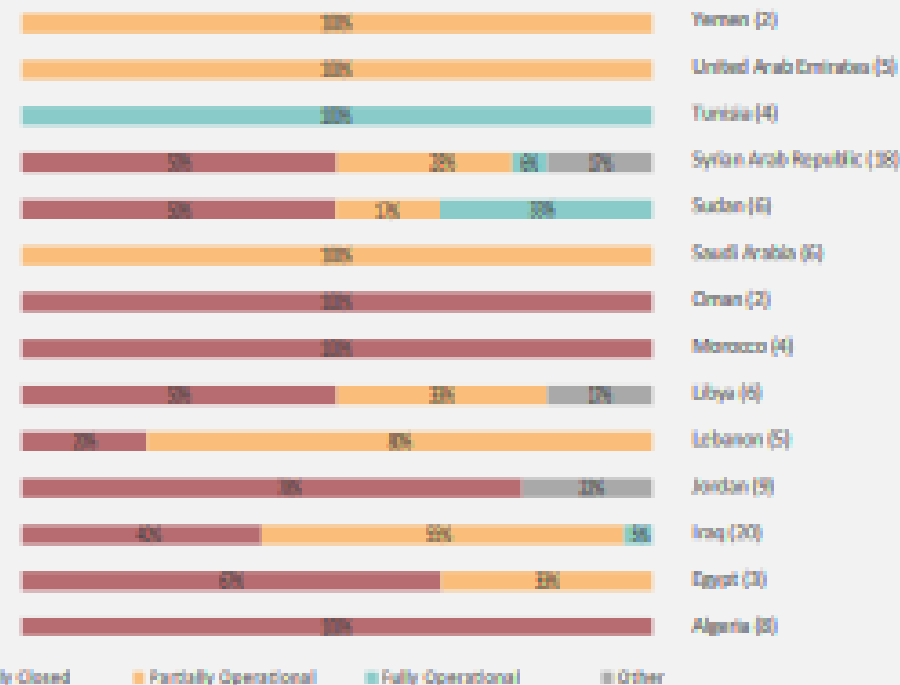


78 → ⓘ Restrictions to enter through this PoE

76 ⓘ ← Restrictions to exit through this PoE


20 ⓘ Medical measures including mandatory quarantine

## Land Border Crossing Points Operational Status






**TIR keeps borders open**  
Tried and tested since 1949

**Border crossings in the age of COVID-19**

Using tried and tested UN Conventions



**Without TIR/eTIR**

Border crossing restrictions: each driver and load compartment is checked, increasing the risk of spreading the virus to customs officers and drivers

**With TIR/eTIR**

Border crossing facilitation, no need to check every driver and load compartment, reducing the risk of spreading the virus

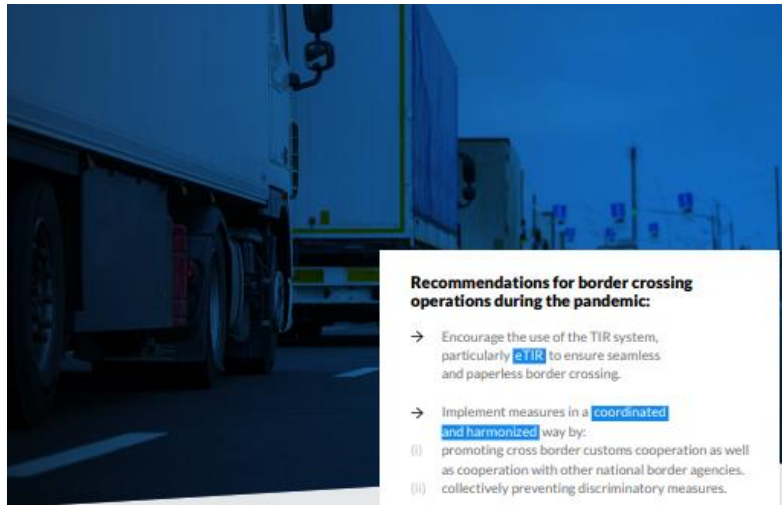
**What is TIR?**

TIR is the only global transit system. It enables goods to be shipped from a country of origin, through transit countries, to a country of destination in sealed load compartments that are controlled by customs via a multilateral, mutually recognised system.

It is the easiest, most secure and reliable way to move goods across multiple international borders, saving time and money for transport operators and customs authorities.


**Benefits**

- Protects drivers
- No disruption of supply chains
- Seamless, contactless border crossing operations
- Electronic exchange of data
- Protects customs officers
- No cargo handling en route
- Continuous cargo flows



**Recommendations for border crossing operations during the pandemic:**

- Encourage the use of the TIR system, particularly **eTIR** to ensure seamless and paperless border crossing.
- Implement measures in a **coordinated and harmonized** way by:
  - (i) promoting cross border customs cooperation as well as cooperation with other national border agencies.
  - (ii) collectively preventing discriminatory measures.
- Establish **green lanes** for freight transport.



**Observatory on Border Crossing Status due to COVID-19**


A practical tool designed by the United Nations regional commissions, international organizations and the transport industry containing updated information from 115 countries all over the world

<https://wiki.unece.org/display/CTRB5BC>


**IRU Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Hub**

In close cooperation with its members and partners, IRU has established the COVID-19 Info Hub, a global source of first-hand, real-time updates and latest updates on the crisis by, and for, the commercial road transport sector

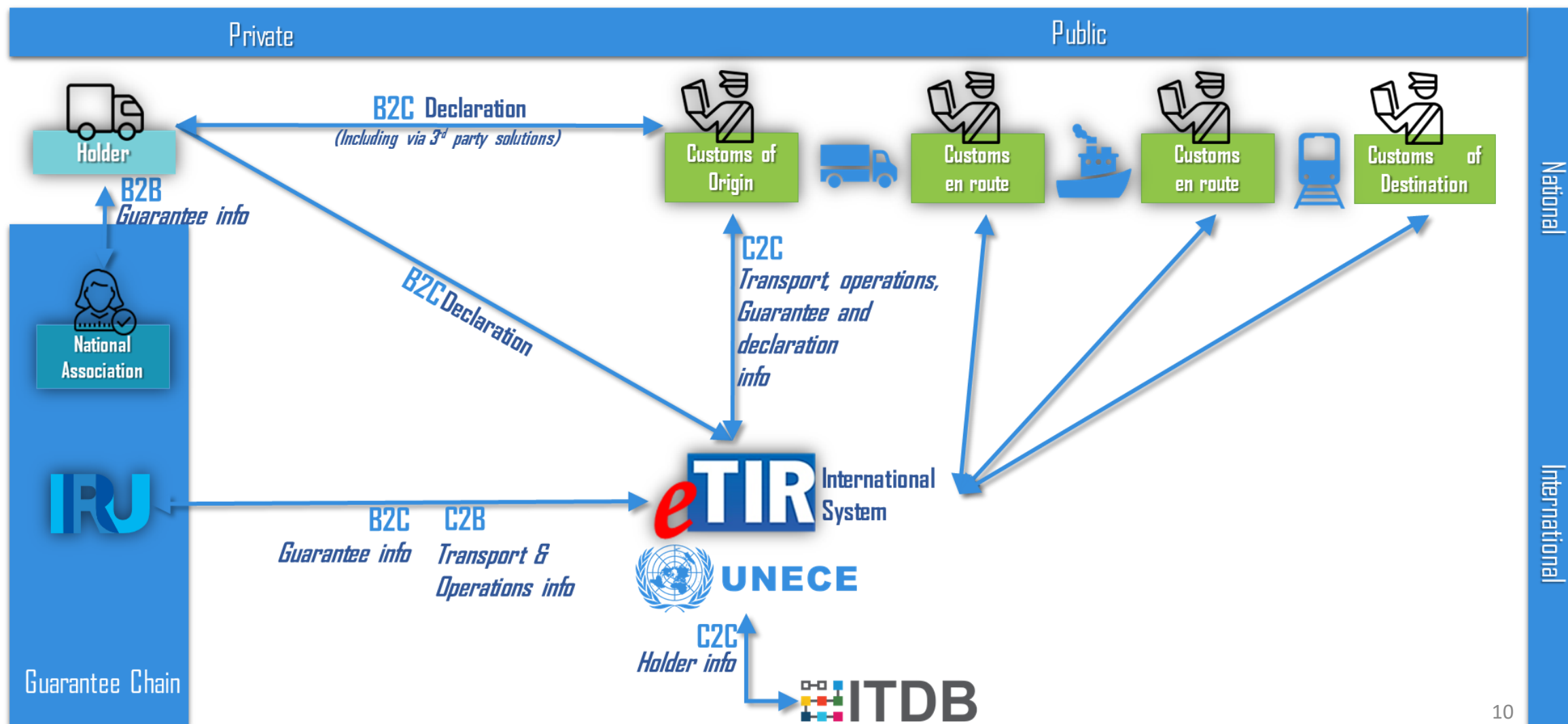
<https://www.iru.org/covid19>

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## eTIR Benefits!

1

- More accuracy with goods delivery times
- Possibility to put goods on the market more quickly and generate more revenue

2

- Makes TIR more attractive and eases its management
- No physical stocks of TIR guarantees required - reduction of related costs
- Possibility to log TIR transports in real time further reducing possible risks

3

- More flexibility related to work with TIR and possibility to obtain TIR electronic guarantees outside of office working hours
- Reduced time related to TIR handling
  - No need to go to the association to obtain TIR guarantee
  - No need to fill in TIR guarantee manually
  - Possibility to log TIR transport in real-time
- Reduced border waiting times

4

- Reduced administrative burden in the absence of paperwork - more time to focus on high risk consignments
- Enhanced security and reduced risk of fraud - identical information available at all customs en route electronically
- Streamlining TIR procedures at border crossing points
- Modernised customs procedures
- Generating more revenues by further trade facilitation

Exporters and Importers

National Association

Holder

Customs



# Thank you!

More information on eTIR here:

