



## **Administrative Arrangements between**

**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANISATION FOR  
INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE BY RAIL (OTIF Secretariat),**

**THE DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND  
TRANSPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (DG MOVE),**

**and**

**THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR RAILWAYS (ERA)**

#### THE PARTICIPANTS:

- THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE BY RAIL, represented by its Secretary General and hereinafter referred to as “OTIF Secretariat”;
- THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, represented by its Director General and hereinafter referred to as “DG MOVE”;
- THE EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR RAILWAYS represented by its Executive Director, hereinafter referred to as “ERA”;

#### HAVING REGARD TO:

- The Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980 in the version of the Protocol of 3 June 1999 (Vilnius Protocol);
- The agreement of 3 June 2011 between the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail and the European Union on the accession of the European Union to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980, as amended by the Vilnius Protocol of 3 June 1999 ("the Accession Agreement") and declarations by the European Union thereto;
- Council Decision 2013/103/EU of 16 June 2011 on the signing and conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail on the Accession of the European Union to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF) of 9 May 1980, as amended by the Vilnius Protocol of 3 June 1999, and in particular the declarations set out in Annexes I and II thereto;
- Regulation (EU) 2016/796 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Railways;
- The good experience gained and cooperation developed in accordance with the Administrative Arrangements between the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF), the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission (DG MOVE), and the European Railway Agency (ERA) of 24 October 2013;

#### WHEREAS:

- The promotion, improvement and facilitation of international rail transport is a common objective of OTIF and the European Union, and enhanced cooperation between all participants is indispensable to reach this goal;

SHARE THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING ON THESE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (hereinafter referred to as "AdAr"):

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of these AdAr is to establish effective collaboration and coordination in the field of international railway transport policy and law to ensure complementarity and synergy of effort within the framework provided by their respective areas of competence.

2. SCOPE

2.1. The scope of these AdAr is to specify a framework of cooperation between the participants in the field of international railway transport. The scope of these AdAr will be limited to the common framework covered by the areas of competence of the participants.

2.2. Cooperation under these AdAr will aim to cover all aspects of international transport of passengers and goods, dangerous goods, technical interoperability and safety and the removing of obstacles to the crossing of frontiers in international rail traffic.

3. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The participants recognise that effective cooperation depends on open, comprehensive and regular exchange of information at the institutional level. To this end the participants:

- a) will keep each other appropriately informed about non-confidential activities, including dissemination and training activities, in the fields of mutual interest, in particular in the legislative area.
- b) may consult each other, as necessary, on matters of common interest.
- c) will share relevant non-confidential information on the implementation and application of relevant legal provisions.

4. COORDINATION AND REPRESENTATION

4.1. The participants will maintain close and regular management and expert level contacts. The participants should aim to hold coordination meetings twice a year to discuss subjects of mutual interest covered by these AdAr.

4.2. The participants should cooperate, coordinate and inform each other when discussing matters of common interest, in particular the international regulation of railway transport and the promotion of relevant EU and OTIF rules, with states and international organisations. Without prejudice to the rights of the EU under COTIF in accordance with the applicable respective rules, the participants agree to notify and invite each other to attend suitable meetings of common interest.

## 5. PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

The participants concerned may put in place any additional detailed practical arrangements for implementing these AdAr. Such arrangements will be set out in Annexes to the AdAr.

## 6. GENERAL

- 6.1 These AdAr constitute an expression of mutual good faith and do not create any legally binding obligations.
- 6.2. Each party should bear its own costs resulting from cooperation under these AdAr, unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing.
- 6.3 Any dispute concerning the interpretation or implementation of these AdAr should be resolved through consultations between the participants.
- 6.4 Each participant should provide the other participants with a contact point or a list of contact persons (with contact details and main area of activity) shortly after these AdAr have been signed.
- 6.5 These AdAr may be revised at any time by mutual written consent of the parties.
- 6.6 These AdAr will take effect on the date of signature by the parties. Any of the participants may terminate these AdAr at any time by giving the other participants three months' notice in writing.

Done in triplicate at [city] on [date] in English.

Wolfgang Küpper  
OTIF  
Secretary General

[signed]

Henrik Hololei  
DG MOVE  
Director-General

[signed]

Josef Doppelbauer  
ERA  
Executive Director

[signed]