

Memorandum of Understanding

on

CER - CIT terms of coordination and cooperation

I. Preamble

The Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) brings together more than 70 European railway undertakings and infrastructure companies (at the time this MoU is adopted). CER represents the interests of its members towards the European institutions as well as other policy makers and transport actors. CER's main focus is promoting the strengthening of rail as essential to the creation of a sustainable transport system which is efficient, effective and environmentally sound.

The International Rail Transport Committee (CIT) is an association of 125 freight and passenger Railway undertakings (RU) and also maritime and ferry companies as full members and 80 RU through associated members (at the time this MoU is adopted). 40 RU come from non EU member states. The aim of CIT is the transposition of the law of international carriage by rail and in particular the Convention concerning international carriage by rail (COTIF) and its consistent application. Within this framework: the development of close working relationships between members, the representation of the interest of members and the provision of other services (advice, training, organisation of events). To this end the CIT works closely together with the competent international authorities and railways organisations.

II. Aim

CER and CIT share the common objective of working together to promote the strengthening of rail as essential to the creation of a sustainable transport system which is efficient, effective and environmentally sound.

To this end and in accordance with the requirement of their common CEOs to avoid any duplication of work, the two organisations closely coordinate, cooperate and complement each other's activities on the European sphere. In particular, the two organisations agree that international and European legal rail issues have an increasing political dimension that needs to be dealt with utmost care, in order not to jeopardise higher interests of their members.

In this context, and with a view to avoid any unnecessary misunderstandings between the various organisations,

III. they agree to apply the following principles in their daily activities:

- CER responsibilities are to represent their members *vis à vis* the European institutions, to influence the agenda and the discussions of transport policy and to serve as a platform for infrastructure managers and railway undertakings to discuss common European interests and to initiate joint activities relevant to that.
- CIT responsibilities are to ensure the uniform application and transposition of international railway law in particular in the framework of COTIF, the standardisation of the corresponding contractual relations and the defence of its member interests *vis à vis* national and international authorities and other organisations.
- CIT will support CER in its role as the political interface with European institutions; on the other hand, CER will ensure CIT's involvement and visibility in the relevant issues to which it can contribute.
- CER will inform CIT about all issues and political discussions related to the special competence and mission of CIT. It will also ensure that CIT can actively participate in the preparation of railway positions on these issues. CIT and CER will also mutually invite each other to statutory meetings (General Assemblies and other key meetings).
- CIT will contact CER if it feels the need to raise certain issues with political stakeholders.
- CIT will inform CER on all planned contacts made with European institutions prior to such contacts being made in order to clarify whether political aspects are involved and in which way they have to be taken into account. This includes the option for CER to provide advice and/or to join the meeting. CIT will also provide CER any other relevant information coming out from discussions with representatives from EU Institutions outside of planned contacts.

The present Memorandum is signed on 03/05/12 in Paris, in English in one original copy for each party

For CER

Libor Lochman
Executive Director

For CIT

Cesare Brand
Secretary General