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20 December 2013

Dear Mr. Dinescu,

Thank you for your letter of 20 November 2013 concerning issues faced by Romanian transport operators, in particular the practice of requiring ECMT or third country permits for bilateral transport operations.

I would like to inform you that - at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - it is the Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) that is a platform to table and discuss such international issues. In fact, SC.1 already discussed the issues related to the origin of goods, frontier controls and road transport permits.

At the last session SC.1 in October 2013, the Government of Poland presented a document which described control of bilateral transport operations of goods by authorities of some countries outside the EU (such as Belarus, Kazakhstan and Turkey) that, in the opinion of the Polish delegation, incorrectly classified these transport operations as third-country operations. The Polish delegation underlined that determining the type of transport operation on the basis of commercial invoices, is in violation of the provisions of the CMR Convention, ECMT guide and bilateral transport agreements. The Government of Turkey in its response - pointed out that it is necessary for border controls to analyse all evidence in order to correctly determine the type of transport operations. It also encouraged bilateral discussions on this subject.

As a result of SC.1 discussions on this topic, the secretariat will distribute a document on this subject - upon its formal receipt from the Government of Poland - to all UNECE member States and will invite them to provide comments.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns with me.

Yours sincerely,

Éva Molnár  
Director  
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