

OTIF



**ORGANISATION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE POUR
LES TRANSPORTS INTERNATIONAUX FERROVIAIRES**

**ZWISCHENSTAATLICHE ORGANISATION FÜR DEN
INTERNATIONALEN EISENBAHNVERKEHR**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR INTER-
NATIONAL CARRIAGE BY RAIL**

Application for accession to COTIF

Russian Federation (21.08.2009)

On 21 August 2009, the Government of the Russian Federation made an application for accession to COTIF. As Depositary of the Convention, the Secretary General brought the application for accession, including the reservations and declarations made with it, to the attention of the Governments of the OTIF Member States in a circular dated 27 August 2009.

Unless five Member States of OTIF lodge objections, the application for accession will be deemed to be accepted as legally binding three months after this notification, i.e. on 27 November 2009. The accession will then take effect on the first day of the third month following the Secretary General's notification to the Member States that the application for accession has been accepted as legally binding.

Initially, Russia will subject the carriage of goods on a small part of its railway infrastructure to the CIM Uniform Rules, i.e. from the landing stage at the Baltiysk ferry terminal to Baltiysk railway station, which is situated near the port, and from the landing stage at the Ust-Luga ferry terminal to Luzhskaya railway station, which is situated near the port, subsequent to the Sassnitz-Baltiysk-Ust-Luga ferry connection.

Depending on the experiences it has following its accession, Russia will consider whether it will be useful to subject further lines to the new uniform transport regime. In so doing, the possibility of introducing Russian as a further working language of OTIF might have a role to play.