

OTIF



**ORGANISATION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE POUR
LES TRANSPORTS INTERNATIONAUX FERROVIAIRES**

**ZWISCHENSTAATLICHE ORGANISATION FÜR DEN
INTERNATIONALEN EISENBAHNVERKEHR**

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

Accession to COTIF

Russian Federation (27.11.2009)

On 21 August 2009, the Government of the Russian Federation made an application for accession to COTIF. In his capacity as Depositary of the Convention, the Secretary General notified the Member States of OTIF of this application for accession. The period in which the Member States were able to lodge objections in accordance with Article 37 § 3 of COTIF expired on 27 November 2009. No objections were lodged.

This application for accession, which contains reservations in accordance with Article 28 § 3 (Arbitration) and the first sentence of Article 42 § 1 of COTIF relating to Appendices A, C, D, E, F and G, as well as a reservation on the scope of application in accordance with Article 1 § 6 of CIM¹, is therefore accepted as legally binding.

In accordance with Article 37 § 3 of COTIF, the accession will take effect on 1 February 2010. COTIF and the CIM Uniform Rules will enter into force for the Russian Federation on that date. The Russian Federation will become the 44th Member State of OTIF.

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 the railway station near the port of Baltiysk and from the landing stage at the Ust-Luga ferry terminal to the railway station near the port of Luzhskaya, subsequent to the Sassnitz-Baltiysk-Ust-Luga ferry connection.

Depending on the experiences it has following its accession, Russia will examine 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.

¹ See under "Publications" on this website, COTIF (3.6.1999), Declarations and reservations