

TURKMENISTAN REOPENS ITS BORDERS FOR BILATERAL AND TRANSIT FREIGHT ROAD TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

Turkmen borders are fully open for bilateral and transit movements as of 7 November 2022.

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

As a result of the pandemic and stringent health measures including for cross-border movements, freight transportation with Turkmenistan was only possible under a trailer swap procedure. At the same time, transport operators could benefit from TIR subcontracting in Turkmenistan.

Starting from 1 June 2022 Turkmenistan has been gradually relaxing access to its territory for transit, reopening border crossings for international transport, while maintaining certain COVID requirements and applying convoys. Loading and unloading on the territory of Turkmenistan was not allowed.

II. INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

The Road Transport Agency of Turkmenistan has officially informed IRU that as of **7 November 2022** borders are open for transit and bilateral transport, allowing for loading and unloading of goods at inland customs. Foreign and Turkmen transport operators and drivers are allowed to enter, exit and transit via the territory of Turkmenistan through the following border crossings:

- International seaport of Turkmenbashi,
- Artyk (border crossing with Iran),
- Sarakhs (border crossing with Iran),
- Garabogaz (border crossing with Kazakhstan),
- Altyn Asyr (border crossing with Iran),
- Dashoguz (border crossing with Uzbekistan),
- Koneurgench (border crossing with Uzbekistan),
- Farap (border crossing with Uzbekistan),
- Ymamnazar (border crossing with Afghanistan),
- Serhetabat (border crossing with Afghanistan).

As before, the foreign drivers are requested to present a negative PCR test and a vaccination certificate or an antibody certificate. At border crossing points, drivers will also have to take an express test for COVID, and vehicles will be disinfected.

Transport operations under trailer swap procedure will also be possible.

With its CAD document [CAD/GE8472/TRB](#), IRU already informed members that TIR-EPD has been operational in Turkmenistan since 15 September 2022.

III. ACTIONS BY MEMBERS

Member associations are kindly requested to inform their TIR carnet holders of the new opportunities for bilateral transport and transit via Turkmenistan, as well as remind them of the activation of TIR-EPD in this country, encourage them to use TIR and send advance cargo information through TIR-EPD both for import and transit before entering Turkmenistan, and thus benefit from the streamlined border crossing and simplified formalities.

Also, member associations are kindly requested to draw special attention of its members to the quality of the provided advance cargo information and ensure its submission in a complete, true and accurate manner.

Members and their transport operators are invited to contact the IRU secretariat at tir@iru.org for any questions.

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