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Press release

Brussels, 7 July 2017

"I AM" members agree on priority topics for 2018 and adopt a first position paper on digitalization

On June 27th, 2017, the members of the "I AM", the industry alliance of transport chain stakeholders gathered in Amsterdam at RAI Conference Center. The meeting, which was kindly hosted by TOC 2017 organizers, allowed participants to share a number of updates about current files such as the review of the combined Transport Directive as well as to take stock of institutional initiatives regarding a number of industries of the logistics chain.

Members of the Alliance also agreed upon the main priority topics for the Alliance in 2018:

- Single transport document
- Connectivity and intermodality
- Attracting and retaining talents, Training and Re-training staff to better adapt to change

Besides discussing about the upcoming priorities, members of the Alliance adopted **a position paper about digitalization** which sets a number of key principles, which are from their point of view, essential to enable industries in the logistics chain to gain efficiency and reliability both individually and collectively, while remaining competitive.

I AM members believe that it is important for upcoming initiatives from the Commission, particularly those consisting in financial support to new solutions, not to distort the necessary competition in the area of innovation that exists and should continue to prevail between individual commercial undertakings (be it big corporations or SMEs) belonging to different sectors of the logistics chain.

Collaboration in the supply chain seeks to deliver more efficient logistics based on data sharing, thus improving existing logistics processes. This requires an appropriate framework regarding data sharing and logistics practices to achieve the maximum benefits for the economy.

"UIRR is glad to be part of this "coalition of good will" which has decided to concentrate on the common grounds that we all agree upon. The paper on digitalization is a first contribution and we hope that others will follow" - stated Ralf-Charley Schultze, President of UIRR.

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The Industry Alliance for Multimodal (IAM), launched on December 8th, 2016 involves 22 different organisations that have decided voluntarily to join forces to work together and in close cooperation with institutional and non-institutional platforms. I AM aims at widening the scope of the discussions to provide a holistic approach that industry would like to be able to promote in a targeted, independent and constructive way.

Members of the Alliance:

AIVP - Association International des Villes Portuaires, BIC - Bureau International des Containers; CLECAT - European Association for Forwarding, Transport, Logistics and Customs Services; EBA - European Boatmen's Association; EBU - European Barge Association; ECASBA - the Federation of National Associations of Ship Brokers and Agents; ECG - the Association of Finished Vehicle Logistics; ECSA - European Community Shipowners' Association; EFIP - European Federation of Inland Ports; EMPA - European Maritime Pilots' Association; ESPO - European Sea Ports Organisation; ESC - European Shippers Council; ETA - European Tugowners Association; EuDA - European Dredging Association; FEPORT - Federation of European Private Port Operators and Terminals; ICHCA International - the global cargo handling NGO; IRU-International Road Transport Union; PEMA - Port Equipment Manufacturers Association; SEA Europe - Shipyards and Maritime Equipment Association; UIP - International Union of Wagon Keepers; UIRR - International Union for Road-Rail Combined Transport; UNISTOCK - European association of professional portside storekeepers for agribulk commodities.