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## **DRAFT IRU RESOLUTION ON USING X-RAY EQUIPMENT FOR INSPECTING VEHICLES AT BORDERS AND PORTS**

*To be adopted by the IRU Goods Transport Council  
in Geneva on 4 November 2010*

**Draft IRU Resolution on limiting the health and safety risks of x-ray vehicle inspection technology for commercial vehicle drivers.**

The International Road Transport Union (IRU), representing road transport operators through its 180 Members in 74 countries on 5 continents,

*Considering that*

- Border, port and other inspection authorities use non-intrusive inspection ("x-ray") technology more and more in order to produce interior images of commercial vehicles
- Such technology is used to reveal contraband, such as drugs, weapons and currency, as well as the onboard presence of illegal immigrants, therefore, inspection authorities consider this tool as an efficient complement to their cumbersome work of manual inspections, including with canine teams
- X-ray equipment may involve mobile or static inspection machines using various ray sources
- Different control procedures and scanning equipment is used by different countries, which indicates a lack of harmonisation in enforcement
- X-ray scans of one and the same vehicle may take place several times on the same route and during the same trip without mutual recognition of such checks, while international and national legislation calls for a decrease in the number of controls en-route
- Information on control procedures and on the impact of x-ray inspections is barely accessible

*Urgently calls upon governmental authorities to*

- Ensure that transparent information in a simple understandable form is available on control procedures, technology, norms and harm prevention measures of x-ray inspection methods; such information should reach drivers on spot of the inspection, as well as haulage companies via their representative organisations
- Apply x-ray tools and inspection methods whereby the checked vehicle is static and only the scanning frame moves

- Make sure that drivers are a secure distance from their vehicles during scanning
- Guarantee that the x-ray technologies used are harmless, i.e. without negative health consequences for the driver or possible illegal immigrants onboard, and without damage to the cargo, as well as ensure that no residue remains in the vehicle that can have long-term negative health consequences for the driver
- Harmonise inspection procedures, exchange best practices among inspection authorities and adopt an international legal instrument on the mutual recognition of x-ray inspection results by these authorities in order to limit the number of inspections, reduce the related health risks for personnel and increase transport efficiency

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