Objective

In March 2017, the European Commission launched a “Rail Technical Operational Issues Logbook”. Its main aim is to identify barriers to interoperability hampering international rail freight traffic, especially on Rail Freight Corridors (RFCs). It shall allow all stakeholders to identify issues and potential solutions. The Issues Logbook will also help to prioritise issues according to their impact and scale, as well as monitoring the progress. The Issues Logbook is facilitated by DG MOVE and does not have the status of binding legislation.

Involvement of Infrastructure Managers

Infrastructure Managers (IMs) will be requested to report about various operational issues, such as braking, train composition or checks at borders. The Issues Logbook can only be efficient if the relevant stakeholders report sufficient operational issues.

EIM in action

- EIM contributes to the Joint PRIME/RU Dialogue meetings dealing with the Issues Logbook.

Opportunities

- The Issues Logbook helps to identify, manage and solve important obstacles to seamless cross-border operations;
- The Logbook tackles important topics, such as braking, train composition or checks at borders;
- The Logbook can contribute to the overarching goal of cleaning up the national rules.

Challenges

- The effectiveness of the Logbook depends on the amount of feedback provided;
- A constant coordination between the EC and the EU Agency for railways (ERA) is needed;
- The Issue Logbook may not be sufficient to manage all possible issues.

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