Implementation of the Luxembourg Rail Protocol
Current status as at 1st February 2019

The Luxembourg Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment is a ground-breaking global treaty which will make it much easier for the private sector to finance railway rolling stock worldwide (from trains to trams). It provides a new international system of rights for creditors whose interests will be registered, and searchable 24/7, at an international registry to be based in Luxembourg. It applies to financings of rolling stock operating domestically as well as in multiple jurisdictions and it will also introduce a new global unique and permanent numbering system for rolling stock (URVIS).

Once it comes into force, the Luxembourg Protocol will facilitate more and cheaper finance from the private sector to support much needed new rolling stock procurement as well as to finance existing fleets. It will lower the barriers to entry for operators and lead to a more competitive and dynamic rail industry worldwide – bringing important social, environmental, developmental and economic advantages as well as new business opportunities.

The Cape Town Convention and the Aviation Protocol was adopted in 2001 and is now in force in 75 countries. It has been a significant success with over 1 million registrations covering 110,000 aircraft objects with an estimated value of over US$ 650 Billion since it started operation in 2006.

The Luxembourg Protocol was only adopted in 2007. It needs 4 ratifications and a certificate of readiness from OTIF, as secretary to the Supervisory Authority, to enter into force. Its current status is the following:

Ratifications
European Union (in respect of its competences)
Gabon
Luxembourg
Sweden
Signatures
France
Germany
Italy
Mozambique
Switzerland
United Kingdom

Ongoing discussions with governments on adoption
Austria
Azerbaijan
Burkina Faso
China
Czech Republic
Denmark
Ethiopia
Finland
Ghana
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Kenya
Latvia
Lithuania
Malaysia
Malta
Mauritius
Nigeria
Senegal
Singapore
St. Vincent & the Grenadines
South Africa
Spain
Uganda
Ukraine
United States