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A book about UIC, its history and current and future challenges, published to mark the 77th General Assembly and the world high speed congress in Beijing

(Beijing/Paris, 9 December 2010) A book about UIC, its past, and current and future challenges, has just been published (English edition) under the title *UIC: the worldwide association of railways – challenges past, present and future*, to mark the statutory meetings (Executive Board and General Assembly) and the world high speed congress UIC HIGHSPEED held from 6 to 9 December in Beijing.

This work, whose chief author is André Lewin, former French Ambassador to India, Austria and several African states, former spokesman for the United Nations Secretary-General in New York and First Vice-President of the International Diplomatic Academy, retraces the main stages of UIC's life and development, against the backdrop of events in international relations and ongoing changes in the railway sector. The book spotlights the role that UIC has consistently played since 1922 in supporting its members – railway companies – in their development, their innovations, and their international standardisation.

The UIC book includes, moreover, forewords and testimonies by Yoshio Ishida, Vice-Chairman of East Japan Railway Company (EJRC) and current UIC Chairman, Mauro Moretti, Chief Executive of Italian Railways (FS) and UIC Vice-Chairman and CER Chairman, Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director-General, and Guillaume Pepy, President of SNCF and Chairman of UIC Europe.

This book marks the celebration in 2011 and 2012 of the 90th anniversary since the establishment of UIC (founded at the intergovernmental conference of Portorose in 1921, followed by its constitutive assembly in Paris in 1922).

This 152-page amply illustrated publication is available for the time being in English only, and will be distributed firstly to UIC members and representatives of international institutions and industry professionals with whom UIC maintains close working relationships.

Copies of the book will also be available for international media representatives, who can request them from the UIC Communications department (com@uic.org.)

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