



REPORT

IIR Seminar on Logistics For Transport Of Foodstuffs Under Controlled Temperature In Hot Countries

October 25, 2016

On October 25, 2016, a seminar was held at the Hotel Acropole in Tunis (Tunisia) on "Logistics for transport of foodstuffs under controlled temperature in hot countries" organized jointly by the Tunisian Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR), under the high patronage of the Minister of Industry and Trade.

Over 120 participants attended the seminar (Tunisian administration, professionals from the public and private sectors, representatives from international organisations and multinational companies, independent national and international experts, etc.) from around ten different countries.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss:

- How temperature controlled logistics contribute to addressing the challenges of the agri-food cold chain
- How the ATP agreement (Agreement on the international carriage of perishable foodstuffs) will be implemented in Tunisia and in hot countries
- How to address the cold chain issue in hot countries.

The presentations delivered and discussed during this seminar were divided into 2 panels and covered the following topics:

PANEL 1: The contribution of refrigerated transport in the development of the cold chain in hot countries

1. Using the cold chain to reduce food losses in developing countries
2. Logistics under controlled temperature
3. Making perishable goods more competitive through the national strategy for the development of logistics
4. The cold chain challenges in Africa and how refrigerated transport can help
5. Adapting the ATP to hot countries
6. Complying with best practices and training the personnel involved in refrigerated transport: Tools available to reduce human impact risk factor
7. Options available for developing the cold chain to increase time between harvest and consumption
8. Mobile Refrigeration, a strong link in the cold chain: the Coldeq experience

PANEL 2: Interest of the ATP application in the field of mobile refrigeration

1. Overview of the cold chain in Tunisia and benchmarking
2. Environmentally efficient and innovative solutions for the cold chain in food transportation
3. Training and certification experience in Europe and opportunities in hot countries
4. COLDINNOV: “sustainable cold chain”
5. Status of the implementation of ATP in Tunisia
6. Setting up of an ATP test chamber and introduction of hydrocarbons in the refrigerated transport sector in South Africa
7. Improving the lifespan and cold chain logistics temperature sensitive fruit using dry ice
8. A refrigerated transport operator from the private sector shared his experience. He pointed out the difficulties encountered in the field of logistical facilities in Tunisia; he proposed alternative solutions and made several concrete suggestions for optimising logistics related to perishable foodstuff transportation and maintaining the cold chain (while stressing the priorities).

Lessons learned:

This seminar was an opportunity to share experiences and best practices in the field of logistics applied to the refrigerated transport of foodstuffs under controlled temperatures in hot countries.

This platform for knowledge and experience sharing, as well as the topics discussed in the various presentations, enabled a better understanding of the role that refrigerated transport can play in the fields of health, agro-food industries, energy and environment. It led to the solid proposal with a strategic focus for the development of this sector, especially in Tunisia.

In this regard:

A. In the case of Tunisia, a country which has signed the ATP agreement since 2007:

1. The competent Tunisian authorities must apply the ATP agreement and take the necessary measures to this end
2. The quality control facilities must be reinforced through the setting up of a “tunnel test centre” laboratory to control locally manufactured boxes, new imported boxes and, particularly, used imported boxes, according to the procedures required by the ATP.
3. A national coordination committee must be created to implement the ATP in Tunisia. It will be managed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade to:
 - Draft regulatory texts
 - Identify the structures in charge of enforcing them:
 - Test laboratory: CETIME
 - Certification body: INNORPI, A3T, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Transport...

- Body in charge of implementation and control: Ministry of the Internal Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture...
- Commission technical assistance to start the tests

B. Concerning the actions carried out by international refrigeration stakeholders to combat global warming:

1. Reduce direct emissions of fluorocarbons into the atmosphere through:

- Better containment of refrigerants
- Reduction of refrigerant charge
- Development of refrigerants with little or no impact on the climate
- Development of appropriate alternative technologies to steam compression
- Training and certification of technicians.

2. Reduce primary energy consumption by increasing the energy efficiency of refrigerating systems

Parallel to this seminar, a 3rd meeting of the IIR Working Group on “The cold chain in hot countries” took place on October 26, 2016, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Mr Zied LADHARI, Tunisian Minister of Industry and Trade, attended this meeting.

Find more information on the 3rd meeting of the IIR Working Group on “The cold chain in hot countries” on the [IIR website](#).



Seminar photos



