

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ROAD AND MOTOR TRANSPORT

Geneva

COMMITTEE 3 : ROAD TRAFFIC

Proposal for Amendment made by the Delegation  
of the Union of South Africa to ECE Draft.

(E/Conf.8/3 Annex 4, Part I Chapter 1, Art. 3 para.1)

To add to paragraph 1 a subsection 1(a) to read as follows:

"In States where it is preferred a general danger sign may be used in substitution of the standard signs 1 to 21

This sign shall consist of a hollow triangle below which shall be attached a rectangular plate on which the nature of the danger shall be indicated by the same figures or symbols as in the standard full triangle or by notice in writing, as may be preferred, to suit local requirement".

Note: An additional diagram will have to be added say 1,21<sup>c</sup> showing a hollow triangle with plate attached below for symbol and or writing.

The reasons for this submission are:

(1) That symbols and figures in the 0.60 m triangle would become so small as to be unclear and even on the 0.90 m triangle it would be impossible to have the written notices in two official languages as is required by law in South Africa.

Refer. Signs I,21<sup>a</sup> and I,21<sup>b</sup>.

(2) Provision for such signs was made in the draft 1939 Convention\* on which signs now used in the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia are based. If reference is made to the 1939 draft Convention it will be noticed that in Article 4 under the heading Danger Signs the following is provided: "A General Danger Sign which may, in States where it is preferred, be substituted for

\* Under discussion by the Committee of Experts for the Codification of Road Law of the League of Nations Organization for Communications and Transit, in 1939.

signs 1-7 mentioned above. The sign shall consist of a hollow triangle. The nature of the danger must be indicated on a plate fixed below the triangle etc. etc.

(3) In Southern Africa where there is a predominant African population symbols may have to be supplemented by written notice in the appropriate African language until such time as the African races are schooled to understand what the symbols indicate.

(4) We do not suggest that the standard symbols as accepted finally at this conference will not be used for the purposes for which they are intended. The aim of our proposal is to assure clarity and understanding of the intention of a danger sign in all circumstances.

(5) A large measure of uniformity in the use of this type of sign has been achieved in Southern Africa including the Union of South Africa, Kenya, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, South West Africa, the British Protectorates of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland.

-----