
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ROAD AND MOTOR TRANSPORT

Geneva

Item of the agenda

WORKING PAPER I: DRAFT PROVISIONS FOR
INSERTION IN A CONVENTION ON ROAD AND
MOTOR TRANSPORT PREPARED BY THE SUB-
COMMITTEE ON ROAD TRANSPORT OF THE INLAND
TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF THE ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (Document E/CONF.8/3)

Communication received from the
International Road Union

Specifications of Commercial Vehicles - Annex 9

It is felt that the specifications inserted in this Annex may have a profound influence on national road construction programmes.

IRU is strongly of the opinion that commercial road transport should be permitted to take full advantage of future technical developments. Road and bridge construction is such a long-term project that it is considered that Governments should, in principle, agree that their programmes will cater for possible increases in the weights and dimensions of vehicles. Today nobody can prophesy with accuracy the type of commercial vehicle it will be possible to build in 15 years' time. It would be unwise, therefore, to limit road and bridge construction programmes to specifications which are in fact below those of vehicles already being built today.

Since commercial vehicles operate within well-defined regions, IRU feels that, although it may be necessary to insert reduced specifications in the main clause of Annex 9, for the sake of obtaining world-wide agreement, it might be more appropriate to allow for multilateral agreements for increased specifications on a regional basis, as sub-clauses of this Annex.