

**Economic and Social
Council**Distr.
GENERALTRANS/WP.1/2002/19
26 March 2002

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety(Thirty-eighth session, 19-22 March 2002,
agenda item 4)**AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON
ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN
AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM**Transmitted by the United Nations Legal Office

The 1949 Convention is still in force and has 91 States Parties. On 8 November 1968 the Convention on Road Traffic (the 1968 Convention) was adopted and was intended to replace the 1949 Convention. Article 48 of the 1968 Convention reads: "Upon its entry into force, this Convention shall terminate and replace, in relations between the Contracting Parties, the Convention on Road Traffic, opened for signature at Geneva on 19 September 1949".

The 1968 Convention entered into force on 21 May 1977. However, not all the parties to the 1949 Convention have become parties to the 1968 Convention. Therefore, the 1949 Convention remains in force for the parties to the 1949 Convention which have not consented to be bound by the 1968 Convention. For those who are parties to both Conventions simultaneously, the 1949 Convention has ceased to exist. The 1949 Convention remains in effect between those that have accepted both Conventions and those which are parties only to the 1949 Convention (see article 30(4) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969). Article 48 of the 1968 Convention replaces and terminates the provisions of the 1949 Convention only in the relations between the parties to the 1968 Convention.

In light of the above, the 1949 Convention may be amended in accordance with its amendment procedure provided for in article 31. A request to amend the 1949 Convention may be proposed by any party to the Convention, whether or not it is also a party to the 1968 Convention.