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# ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (Fortieth (special) session, 27-29 November 2002)

# PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTIETH (SPECIAL) SESSION $\frac{*}{}$

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 27 November 2002

1. Adoption of the agenda

TRANS/WP.1/84

- Amendments to and implementation of the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European Agreements supplementing them
  - (a) Consolidated amendment proposals
  - (b) Definition of mopeds and motorcycles

TRANS/WP.1/2002/23 TRANS/WP.1/2002/23/Rev.1

TRANS/WP.29/2002/68 TRANS/WP.1/2002/4 TRANS/WP.1/2002/27 and Adds.1 and 2 TRANS/WP.1/2002/21



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*/</sup> Delegates are requested to fill-in the attached registration form (also available from the Internet web site of the ECE Transport Division) and to transmit the duly filled-in form <u>at the latest two weeks</u> <u>before the session</u> to the ECE Transport Division, either by fax (+41-22 917 0039) or by E-mail (caroline.jeunet@unece.org). In Geneva, prior to the session, delegates are required to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page), for issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulties, telephone the ECE secretariat (Int. 73242).

Adds. 1 and 2

TRANS/WP.1/2002/34

TRANS/WP.1/2002/26

(c)	Driving permits TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.2/Add.4	
		TRANS/WP.1/2002/22 and
		Add.1
(d)	Safety in road tunnels	TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.2/Add.5
		TRANS/WP.1/2002/28
		TRANS/WP.1/2002/39
(e)	Visibility and legibility of road signs	TRANS/WP.1/2001/41
	and road markings	TRANS/WP.1/2002/11 and

- (f) Alcohol TRANS/WP.1/2002/38
- 3. Preparation of the Fourth Road Safety Week in the ECE Region
- 4. Other business

5. Adoption of decisions

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### EXPLANATORY NOTES 1/

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

- AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON 2. ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM
- Consolidated amendment proposals (a)

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party invited delegates to submit written comments on the consolidated amendment proposals contained in TRANS/WP.1/2002/23 to the secretariat. The comments will be discussed at the fortieth (special) session.

<sup>1/</sup> For reasons of economy, delegates are kindly requested to bring to the meeting copies of the documents received by mail prior to the meeting or downloaded from the Internet.

Following the discussions at the thirty-ninth session of the Working Party and the observations made by the Group of Legal Experts, the secretariat will prepare a new consolidated document with the symbol TRANS/WP.1/2002/23/Rev.1.

The Working Party will be informed orally about the results of the meetings of the Group of Legal Experts held on 27 September and 26 November 2002.

#### (b) <u>Definition of mopeds and motorcycles</u>

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party decided to postpone this issue until its fortieth (special) session, by which time WP.29 will have taken a decision on the new definitions (TRANS/WP.29/2002/68).

The Working Party agreed that delegates should make contact with their country's delegate to WP.29 in order to harmonize their position on this subject and that delegates should carefully study the document transmitted by IMMA (TRANS/WP.1/2002/4) so that it can be dealt with by the Working Party at its fortieth (special) session in November. Moreover, delegates were asked to consider whether modifications to Annex 5 of the Convention would also be required.

The Chairman of the Working Party indicated that Switzerland would assist IMMA and the small group in developing concrete amendment proposals and that a decision would be taken at the fortieth (special) session in November on whether proposed amendments on definitions could be included in the package to be submitted to the Secretary-General in 2003.

#### (c) <u>Driving permits</u>

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party examined in detail the proposals of the small group on driving permits under the chairmanship of the Russian Federation (TRANS/WP.1/2002/22 and Add.1). The decisions taken with regard to those two documents can be found in TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.2/Add.4.

Before work could proceed further it was decided that certain proposals should be discussed by the Legal Group. Also, the European Commission was asked for its opinion regarding the numbering of entries on the proposed new driving permit.

The Working Party will be informed about the comments of the Legal Group and the European Commission.

#### (d) <u>Safety in road tunnels</u>

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party adopted in principle the proposals of the small group on safety in tunnels (TRANS/WP.1/2002/28). The Working Party took note of the explanations given by the Swiss delegate on amendment proposals contained in TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.2/Add.5 and delegates were invited to transmit any comments on them to the secretariat as soon as possible so that they can be considered at the fortieth (special) session of WP.1 in November.

The amendment proposals made by Switzerland and the explanations are contained in TRAN/WP.1/2002/39.

(e) <u>Visibility and legibility of road signs</u>

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party agreed in principle to the following new text which should replace the existing text of Article 7 of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals:

- 1. It is recommended that national legislation provide for the use of lighted or retroreflective panels in order to make road signs visible and legible at night, in particular danger warning signs, regulatory and directions signs, provided that this does not result in road users being dazzled.
- 2. Danger warning signs and regulatory signs may make use of fluorescent materials.
- 3. National legislation should draw up rules for the use of lighted, retro-reflective and fluorescent signs, in particular specifying the situations in which each class of retro-reflection shall be used.
- 4. Existing text of para.2 ("Nothing in this Convention shall prohibit the use, for conveying information, warnings or rules applying only at certain times or on certain days, of signs which are visible only when the information they convey is relevant").

The Working Party also adopted in principle slightly modified versions of Article 29, paragraph 4 and Article 29 <u>bis</u> of the Convention on Road Signs and Signals:

#### Article 29.4 CRSS

"4. Road markings intended for guiding vehicles in traffic shall be easily recognized in good time by the drivers for whom they are intended. They must be visible in all weather conditions both during the day and at night.

It is recommended that such markings, especially in areas where lighting is insufficient, be reflectorised.

#### Article 29 bis CRSS

1. When permanent road markings are to be modified for a specific period, in particular because of roadworks or diversions, temporary markings shall be applied in a colour different from that used for permanent markings.

2. Temporary markings shall take preference over permanent markings and road users are required to conform to them. When the simultaneous presence of permanent and temporary markings could lead to confusion, the permanent markings shall be covered or removed.

3. Temporary markings shall preferably be retro-reflective, and may be supplemented by beacons or cats eyes with a view to improving traffic guidance."

The Working Party is expected to take a final decision on these texts at its fortieth (special) session.

#### (f) <u>Alcohol</u>

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party considered a proposal by Hungary contained in an Informal document to modify the European Agreement supplementing the Convention on Road Traffic by reducing the maximum permissible blood alcohol level for drivers.

The Working Party requested that the proposal be issued as a formal document (TRANS/WP.1/2002/38).

## 3. PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH ROAD SAFETY WEEK IN THE ECE REGION

At its thirty-ninth session, the Working Party decided to hold the Fourth Road Safety Week in the ECE Region on the theme of aggressive road behaviour. The dates of 5-11 April 2004 were chosen to coincide with World Health Day on 7 April 2004 which will be devoted to "Safe Roads".

The Working Party considered a draft resolution on the Fourth Road Safety Week presented by the secretariat (TRANS/WP.1/2002/26) and decided to complete work on it at its fortieth (special) session so that it could be submitted for adoption by the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-fifth session in February 2003.

Moreover, in response to a suggestion made by the Director of the Transport Division at the opening of the thirty-ninth session, the Working Party is invited to discuss the possibility of holding a half-day meeting during its forty-first session (31 March to 4 April 2004) for Ministerial press officers to ensure adequate press support and publicity for the Fourth Road Safety Week .

## 4. OTHER BUSINESS

The Working Party may wish to discuss any other business under this agenda item.

The Working Party is informed that its forty-first session is scheduled to be held from 31 March to 4 April 2003.

# 5. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS

The Working Party will adopt a list of decisions taken at its fortieth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.



# UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

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