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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
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**AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS
ON ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE
1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM**

**Text of article 37 of and Annexes 1-3 to the Convention on Road Traffic taking
into account the amendments adopted by WP.1 at the thirty-seventh session
(TRANS/WP.1/78), and the decisions reached at the thirty-eighth session
(TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.1)**

Set out below is a Russian text of the above-mentioned article and annexes taking into account the results of the work carried out by the Legal Expert Group on the incorporation of a distinguishing sign of the State of registration into the registration plate (shown in italics), including the Group's position on items 3.2 and 3.3 of the new edition of Annex 3 (in bold italics). The terminology used for registration signs is in conformity with Russia's laws and regulations and the rules of the Russian language and does not alter the substance of the approved proposals for amendments and supplements to the Convention (the relevant terms are underlined).

ARTICLE 37

DISTINGUISHING SIGN OF THE STATE OF REGISTRATION

1. Every motor vehicle in international traffic shall display at the rear, in addition to its registration number, a distinguishing sign of the State in which it is registered. *This sign may either be incorporated into the registration plate(s) or placed separately.*
2. Every trailer coupled to a motor vehicle and required under article 36 of this Convention to display a registration number at the rear shall also display at the rear, *either separately from its registration plate or incorporated into it*, the distinguishing sign of the State where the registration number was assigned. The provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable even if the trailer is registered in a State other than the State of registration of the motor vehicle to which it is coupled; if the trailer is not registered, it shall display at the rear the distinguishing sign of the State of registration of the drawing vehicle except when it is travelling in that State.
3. The composition of the distinguishing sign and *the manner of displaying it or its incorporation into the registration plate shall conform to the conditions laid down in Annexes 2 and 3* to this Convention.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

EXCEPTIONS TO THE OBLIGATION TO ADMIT MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

9. Contracting Parties may refuse to admit to their territories in international traffic any motor vehicle, or any trailer coupled to a motor vehicle, which displays a distinguishing sign other than *one of those prescribed in article 37* of this Convention. *Contracting Parties may not refuse admission to a vehicle which has a distinguishing sign placed separately from the registration plate in conformity with the provisions of this Convention substituting a non-conforming distinguishing sign which is incorporated into the registration plate(s).*

ANNEX 2

REGISTRATION NUMBER AND PLATE OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

3. When the registration number is displayed on a special plate, this plate shall be flat and fixed in a vertical or nearly vertical position and at right angles to the vehicle's median longitudinal plane. When the number is displayed or painted on the vehicle, the surface on which it is displayed or painted shall be flat and vertical, or nearly flat and vertical, and at right angles to the vehicle's median longitudinal plane.

4. *Without prejudice to the provisions of Annex 5, paragraph 61 (g) of this Convention, the background of the registration plate on which the registration number and, where applicable, the distinguishing sign of the State in which the vehicle is registered, possibly completed by the flag or emblem according to the conditions defined in Annex 3, is displayed, may be of a retro-reflective material.*

5. *The background of the part of the registration plate on which the distinguishing sign is incorporated shall be of the same material as that used to display the registration number.*

ANNEX 3

DISTINGUISHING SIGN OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

1. The distinguishing sign referred to in article 37 of this Convention shall consist of one to three letters in capital Latin characters.

2. *When the distinguishing sign is displayed separately from the registration plate, it must conform to the following conditions:*

2.1. *The letters shall have a height of at least 0.08 m and their strokes a width of at least 0.01 m. The letters shall be (...) in black on a white background having the shape of an ellipse with the major axis horizontal. The white background may be of a retro-reflective material.*

2.2. When the distinguishing sign consists of only one letter, the major axis of the ellipse may be vertical.

2.3. *The distinguishing sign shall not be affixed in such a way that it could be confused with the registration number or impair its legibility.*

2.4 On motorcycles and their trailers, the dimensions of the axes of the ellipse shall be at least 0.175 m and 0.115 m. On other motor vehicles and their trailers, the dimensions of the axes of the ellipse shall be at least:

(a) 0.24 m and 0.145 m if the distinguishing sign comprises three letters.

(b) 0.175 m and 0.115 m if the distinguishing sign comprises less than three letters.

3. *When the distinguishing sign is incorporated into the registration plate(s), the following conditions shall apply:*

3.1. *The letters shall have a height of at least 0.02 m, taking as a reference a registration plate 0.110 m high.*

3.2. *The distinguishing sign shall be on the left or the right extremity of the registration plate but preferably be on the left. The distinguishing sign may be supplemented by a national flag or emblem, or by the symbol of the regional economic integration organization which the country belongs to.*

The distinguishing sign, the supplementary national flag or emblem and the symbol of the regional economic integration organization which the country belongs to shall be positioned within the registration plate and designed in such a way that they cannot be confused with the registration number or impair its legibility. The extremity of the registration plate where these elements are incorporated shall have a different background colour to that reserved for the registration number or, if it is the same colour, be separated by a vertical line clearly showing the separation with the registration number.

3.3. *When there is a registration plate at the front of the vehicle it shall also incorporate a distinguishing sign in conformity with the provisions of this Convention.*

3.4. *For motorcycles and their trailers and/or for registration plates taking up two lines, the size of the letters of the distinguishing sign as well as, where applicable, the size of the national flag or emblem or the symbol of the regional economic integration organization which the country belongs to may be appropriately modified.*

4. *The relevant provision of Annex 2, paragraph 3, shall apply to the distinguishing sign.*
