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Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

Programme of Work: Taking Stock of National Legislation

Analysis of information collected via the web-based Road Signs

Management System: remaining G and H section signs

Amendments to Article 9 through 14 of the Convention on Road Signs and Signals of 1968

Note by the Secretariat

The Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals requested the secretariat at its 12th session to propose amendments to Article 9 through 14 of the Convention similar to amendment proposal made for Articles 15 through 19.

This document provides such an amendment proposal. The amendments are marked by strikethrough for text deletion and by bold for text addition. To facilitate the understanding of amendments proposed, explanatory comments are added.

DANGER WARNING SIGNS

ARTICLE 9

1. Section A, ~~subsection I~~ of Annex 1 to this Convention ~~indicates~~ **provides** the models for danger warning signs; ~~Section A, subsection II indicates the symbols to be placed on these signs and gives some instructions for their use,~~ **describes the danger warning signs and gives their meaning.** In conformity with Article 46, paragraph 2 of this Convention, each State shall notify the Secretary-General whether it has selected Aa or Ab as the model for danger warning signs.⁹

Comment: Paragraph 1 is altered to make the text consistent with first paragraphs introducing other sub-classes of signs. It should then be discussed whether the models for danger warning signs should be referred to as 'Aa' and 'Ab' or rather they should be referred to by their shape.

2. The number of danger warning signs shall not be increased unnecessarily, but such signs shall be sited to give warning of possible road hazards which are difficult for a driver proceeding with due caution to perceive in time.

3. Danger warning signs shall be placed at such distance from the danger point as will make them most effective both by day and by night, having regard to road and traffic conditions, including the normal speed of vehicles and the distance at which the sign is visible.

4. The distance between the sign and the beginning of a dangerous section of road ~~may be shown in an additional panel H, 1 of Annex 1, section H to this Convention and placed in accordance with the provisions of that section; this information~~ must be given when the distance between the sign and the beginning of the dangerous section of road cannot be judged by drivers and is not what they might normally expect. **This distance shall be shown in accordance with Section H, paragraph 2(a).**

5. Danger warning signs may be repeated, particularly on motorways and roads treated as motorways. Where they are repeated, the distance between the sign and the beginning of the dangerous section of road shall be shown in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of this Article.

However, with respect to danger warning signs giving warning of **and distance to** swing bridges and level crossings, it shall be open to Contracting Parties to ~~apply the following provisions: use A signs specific for approaches to swing bridges and level crossings, which are described~~ rectangular panel having its longer sides vertical and bearing three oblique red bars on a white or yellow ground, ~~may be placed below any danger warning signs bearing one of the symbols A, 5; A, 25; A, 26 or A, 27 described in Annex 1, section A, subsection II, paragraphs 5, 25, 26 and 27 to this Convention, provided that additional signs consisting of panels of the same shape bearing respectively one or two oblique red bars on a white or yellow ground are set up at about one third and two thirds of the distance between the sign and the railway line. These signs may be repeated on the opposite side of the carriageway. The panels mentioned in this paragraph are further depicted in section A, subsection II, paragraph 29 of Annex 1 to this Convention.~~

Comment: This type of information should be placed in Annex I, under the description of the given signs.

6. If a danger warning sign is used to give warning of a danger on a section of road of some length (e.g. a series of dangerous bends or a section of carriageway in bad condition) and if it is considered desirable to show the length of that section, this shall be done **in**

accordance with ~~on an additional panel H, 2 of Annex 1, section H, paragraph 2(b), to this Convention, placed in accordance with the provisions of that section.~~

REGULATORY SIGNS

ARTICLE 10

Priority signs

1. The signs for notifying or informing road-users of the special rules of priority at intersections are **described in Annex 1, section B, paragraphs 1 to 4.** ~~signs B, 1; B, 2; B, 3 and B, 4.~~

2. The signs described in above-mentioned paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be placed at the intersection, if possible level with the point at which vehicles must stop or beyond which they must not pass when giving way. They may be placed elsewhere than at an intersection if the competent authorities consider it necessary. The sign of paragraph 2 shall be set up only if the competent authorities consider it advisable to require drivers to stop, in particular because of the poor visibility, for drivers, of the sections of the road, on either side of the intersection, which they are approaching.

3. The sign described in above-mentioned paragraph 3 shall be placed at the beginning of the road and repeated after each intersection; it may also be set up before or at the intersection.

4. The sign described in above-mentioned paragraph 4 shall be placed at the approach to the point from where the sign of paragraph 3 of this Article ceases to apply.

5. The sign of paragraph 4 of this Article may be repeated one or more times in advance ~~of the point where the priority ends; the sign or signs set up in advance of that point shall then bear an additional panel H, 1~~ in accordance with Annex 1, section H, paragraph 2 (a).

5. In conformity with Article 46, paragraph 2, of this Convention, each State shall notify the Secretary-General ~~whether it has selected B, 2a or B, 2b~~ as which of the models for the "STOP" sign described in Annex 1, section B, paragraph 2 ⁷ ~~it has selected.~~¹⁰

6. If warning of an intersection is given on a road by danger warning signs ~~bearing one of the A, 19 symbols~~ described in Annex 1, Section A, paragraph 19, or if at the intersection the road is a priority road and has been marked as such by sign B, ~~3 as provided in~~ of paragraph 3 ⁷ of this Article, signs B, 1 ~~or B, 2~~ of paragraph 2 of this Article shall be placed at the intersection on all the other roads; however, the placing of those signs B, 1 ~~or B, 2~~ shall not be mandatory on roads such as paths or earth-tracks where drivers are required to give way at the intersection even in the absence of such signs.

~~27.~~ The signs for informing road-users of a rule of priority on narrow sections of road are signs B, 5 and B, 6. ~~These signs are described in Annex 1, section B, paragraphs 5 and 6. to this Convention.~~

2. Sign B, 1 "GIVE WAY", shall be used to notify drivers that, at the intersection where the sign is placed, they must give way to vehicles on the road they are approaching.

3. — ~~Sign B, 2, "STOP", shall be used to notify drivers that, at the intersection where the sign is placed, they shall stop before entering the intersection and give way to vehicles on the road they are approaching. In conformity with Article 46, paragraph 2, of this Convention, each State shall notify the Secretary General whether it has selected B, 2a or B, 2b as the model for the "STOP" sign.¹⁰~~

4. — ~~Sign B, 1 or B, 2 may be placed elsewhere than at an intersection if the competent authorities consider it necessary.~~

5. — ~~Signs B, 1 and B, 2 shall be placed at the intersection, if possible level with the point at which vehicles must stop or beyond which they must not pass when giving way.~~

Comment: the above changes are suggested to make the text more consistent with other articles; the definitions are proposed be moved to the Annex 1, section B.

6. — ~~To give advance warning of sign B, 1 the same sign supplemented by an additional panel H, 1, described in Annex 1, section H to the Convention, shall be used. To give advance warning of sign B, 2, sign B, 1, supplemented by a rectangular panel bearing the "STOP" symbol and a figure indicating the distance to the sign B, 2 shall be used.¹¹~~

Comment: the above paragraph is proposed to be moved to Annex 1, section A, paragraph 20.

7. — ~~Sign B, 3, "PRIORITY ROAD", shall be used to notify users of a road that, at intersections of that road with other roads, the drivers of vehicles moving along or coming from such other roads are required to give way to vehicles moving along that road. This sign may be set up at the beginning of the road and repeated after each intersection; it may also be set up before or at the intersection. Where sign B, 3 has been set up on a road, sign B, 4, "END OF PRIORITY", shall be placed at the approach to the point where the road ceases to have priority over other roads.~~

~~Sign B, 4 may be repeated one or more times in advance of the point where the priority ends; the sign or signs set up in advance of that point shall then bear an additional panel H, 1 of Annex 1, section H.~~

8. — ~~If warning of an intersection is given on a road by a danger warning sign bearing one of the A, 19 symbols, or if at the intersection the road is a priority road and has been marked as such by signs B, 3 as provided in paragraph 7 of this Article, a sign B, 1 or B, 2 shall be placed at the intersection on all the other roads; however, the placing of signs B, 1 or B, 2 shall not be mandatory on roads such as paths or earth tracks where drivers are required to give way at the intersection even in the absence of such signs.~~

~~A sign B, 2 shall be set up only if the competent authorities consider it advisable to require drivers to stop, in particular because of the poor visibility, for drivers, of the sections of the road, on either side of the intersection, which they are approaching.~~

ARTICLE 11

Prohibitory or restrictive signs

Section C of Annex 1 to this Convention describes the prohibitory and restrictive signs and gives their meaning. It also describes the signs notifying the end of these prohibitions and restrictions or of any one of them.

ARTICLE 12

Mandatory signs

Section D of Annex 1 to this Convention describes the mandatory signs and gives their meaning.

ARTICLE 13

Special regulation signs

Section E of Annex 1 to this Convention describes the special regulation signs and gives their meaning.

ARTICLE 13 bis

Provisions applying generally to the signs described in Annex 1, sections C, and D and E to this Convention

1. Prohibitory, restrictive and mandatory **as well as special regulation** signs shall be placed in the immediate vicinity of the point where the obligation, restriction, ~~or prohibition~~ **or special regulation** begins and may be repeated if the competent authorities consider it necessary. Nevertheless, if the competent authorities consider it advisable for reasons of visibility or in order to give users advance warning, these signs may be placed at a suitable distance in advance of the point where the obligation, restriction ~~or prohibition~~ **or special regulation** applies. ~~An additional panel H, 1 of in accordance with Annex 1, section H, paragraph 2(a) unless provided otherwise shall be placed under signs set up in advance of the point where the obligation, restriction or prohibition applies.~~

2. ~~Regulatory~~ **Prohibitory, restrictive and mandatory** signs placed level with or shortly after a sign indicating the beginning of a built-up area shall mean that the rule applies throughout the built-up area, unless a different rule is notified by other signs on certain sections of the road in the built-up area.

3. Prohibitory and restrictive signs shall apply as from the place they are displayed until the point where a contrary sign is displayed, otherwise until the next intersection. If the prohibition or restriction should continue to be applied after the intersection the sign shall be repeated in accordance with provisions in domestic legislation. **Shall however these sign be used on zonal validity signs,**

4. ~~Where a regulatory sign applies to all roads in a zone (zonal validity), it shall be displayed in the way described in Annex 1, section E, subsection II, paragraph 8 (a) to this Convention., they apply to all roads in a zone to the point where a contrary zonal validity sign is displayed.~~

5. ~~The exit from the zones referred to in paragraph 4 above shall be indicated in the way~~

~~described in Annex 1, of section E, subsection II, paragraph 8 (b) of this Convention.~~

Comment: These general provisions, in particular provision 1 is also applicable to special regulation signs. It seems thus sensible to incorporate these signs to the same Article.

ARTICLE 13 bis

Special regulation signs

1. — ~~Section E of Annex 1 to this Convention describes the special regulation signs and gives their meaning.~~

2. — ~~Signs E, 7a; E, 7b; E, 7c or E, 7d and E, 8a; E, 8b; E, 8c or E, 8d shall notify road-users that the general regulations governing traffic in built up areas in the territory of the State apply from signs E, 7a; E, 7b; E, 7c; or E, 7d to signs E, 8a; E, 8b; E, 8c; or E, 8d except in so far as different regulations may be notified by other signs on certain sections of road in the built up area. However, sign B, 4 shall always be placed on a priority road marked with sign B, 3 if that road ceases to have priority where it passes through the built up area. The provisions of Article 14, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 apply to these signs.~~¹²

2 bis. — ~~Sign E, 11a shall be used for tunnels of 1,000 m or more and in cases provided for by domestic legislation. For tunnels of 1,000 m or more, the length shall be included either in the lower part of the sign, or on an additional panel H, 2, as described in Annex 1, section H. The name of the tunnel may be indicated according to Article 8, paragraph 3 of this Convention.~~

3. — ~~Signs E, 12a; E, 12b or E, 12c shall be placed at pedestrian crossings when the competent authorities consider it advisable.~~

4. — ~~The special regulations signs shall be set up, with due regard to the requirements of Article 6, paragraph 1, only where the competent authorities consider it essential. They may be repeated; an additional panel placed below the sign may show the distance between the sign and the point which it indicates; this distance may also be inscribed on the lower part of the sign itself.~~

Comment: the paragraphs 1 and 2 are already covered with the changes proposed. Paragraphs 2, 2bis and 3 are proposed to be moved to Annex 1, as appropriate.

INFORMATIVE SIGNS

ARTICLE 14

1. Sections F and G of Annex 1 to this Convention describe the signs which convey useful information to road-users, or give examples of such signs, and also give some instructions for their use.

2. — ~~The inscription of words on informative signs (ii) of Article 5, paragraph 1 (c), in countries not using the Latin alphabet shall be both in the national language and in the form of a transliteration into the Latin alphabet reproducing as closely as possible the pronunciation in the national language.~~

3. — ~~In countries not using the Latin alphabet, the words in Latin characters may be entered either on the same sign as the words in the national language or on a repeat sign.~~

4. — ~~A sign shall not bear inscriptions in more than two languages.~~

Comment: the paragraphs 2 to 4 are suggested to be moved to Annex 1, Section G.

Annex 1

ROAD SIGNS

Section A

DANGER WARNING SIGNS

I. Models

1. The "A" DANGER WARNING signs shall be of model Aa or model Ab both ~~described here and reproduced in Annex 3,~~ except signs **to be placed in the immediate vicinity of level-crossings and additional signs at approaches to level-crossings or swing bridges.** ~~A, 28 and A, 29 described in paragraphs 28 and 29 below respectively.~~ Model Aa is an equilateral triangle having one side horizontal and the opposite vertex above it; the ground is white or yellow and the border red. Model Ab is a square with one diagonal vertical; the ground is yellow and the border, which is only a rim, is black. Unless the description specifies otherwise, the symbols displayed on these signs shall be black or dark blue.

2. The size of the normal sized sign of model Aa shall measure approximately 0.90 m; that of the small sized sign of model Aa shall measure not less than 0.60 m. The size of the normal sized sign of model Ab shall measure approximately 0.60 m; that of the small sign of model Ab shall measure not less than 0.40 m.

3. As regards the choice between models Aa and Ab, see Article 5, paragraph 2, and Article 9, paragraph 1, of this Convention.

~~H. Symbols and instructions for the use of signs~~ **Descriptions**

20. Intersection with a road to whose users drivers must give way³⁵

(a) If the "GIVE WAY" sign B, 1 is placed at the intersection, the symbol A, 20 shall be used at the approach **or alternatively B, 1 sign supplemented by an additional panel H, 1, described in Annex 1, section H, paragraph 2 (a) shall be used.**

(b) If the "STOP" sign B, 2 is placed at the intersection, the symbol used at the approach shall be A, 21a or A, 21b whichever corresponds to the model of sign B, 2 set up **or alternatively sign B, 1, supplemented by a rectangular panel bearing the "STOP" symbol and a figure indicating the distance to the sign B, 2 shall be used.**

Comment: The Article 10, para 6 is moved to Annex 1. It should be further considered whether or not to amend those paragraphs further by presenting the option in bold as the only feasible option for the triangle shape of danger warning signs, whilst for the 'diamond' shape, the B,1 and B,2 signs could be superimposed on that shape.

(c) ~~However, instead of sign Aa with these symbols, sign B, 1 or sign B, 2 may be used in conformity with Article 10, paragraph 6, of this Convention.~~

29. Additional signs at approaches to level-crossings or swing bridges

(a) ~~The panels mentioned in Article 9, paragraph 5 of this Convention are~~ Signs A, 29a, A, 29b and A, 29c **may be used to give warning of and distance at approaches to level-crossings and swing bridges. These signs are rectangular having its longer sides vertical and bear respectively three, two and one oblique red stripes on a white or**

yellow ground, with the latter two signs set up at about two thirds and one third of the distance between the sign A, 29a and the railway line or swing bridge. These signs may be repeated on the opposite side of the carriageway. The bars stripes shall slope downwards towards the carriageway.

(b) The danger warning sign for the level-crossing or swing bridge may be placed above signs A, 29b and A, 29c in the same way as it shall be placed above sign A, 29a.

Comment: the description from Article 9, paragraph 5 is moved to the annex 1.

Section B

PRIORITY SIGNS

~~NOTE~~— At an intersection comprising a priority road in which there is a bend, an additional panel H, 8 bearing a diagram of the intersection which shows the outline of the priority road may be placed below danger signs giving warning of the intersection or below priority signs, whether they are set up at the intersection or not.

Comment: the placement of the above provision might be further considered.

1. "GIVE WAY" sign³⁹

(a) The "GIVE WAY" sign shall be sign B, 1. **It shall be used to notify drivers that, at the intersection where the sign is placed, they must give way to vehicles on the road they are approaching.** It shall consist of an equilateral triangle having one side horizontal and the opposite vertex below it. The ground shall be white or yellow and the border red. The sign shall bear no symbol.

(b) The side of the normal sized sign shall measure approximately 0.90 m; the side of the small sign shall measure not less than 0.60 m.

Comment: the definition from Article 10, paragraph 2 was moved to the annex 1.

2. "STOP" sign⁴⁰

(a) The "STOP" sign shall be sign B, 2, **which shall be used to notify drivers that, at the intersection where the sign is placed, they shall stop before entering the intersection and give way to vehicles on the road they are approaching.** ~~of which~~ There are two models **of this sign:**

Comment: the definition from Article 10, paragraph 3 was moved to the annex 1.

(i) Model B, 2a is octagonal with a red ground bearing the ~~word~~ "STOP" **inscription** in white in English or in the language of the State concerned; the height of the word shall be no less than one third of the height of the panel;

(ii) Model B, 2b is circular with a white or yellow ground and a ~~red yellow~~ border; it bears within it sign B, 1 without any inscription, and near the top, in large letters, the ~~word~~ "STOP" **inscription** in black or dark blue, in English or in the language of the State concerned.

Comment: the changes above to (i) and (ii) were accepted earlier by the Group of Experts. However, they Group may still consider whether or not to adopt the amended text describing model B, 2a as in the European Agreement.

(b) The height of the normal sized sign B, 2a and the diameter of the normal sized sign B, 2b shall be approximately 0.90 m; the same dimensions of the small signs shall be not less than 0.60 m.

(c) As regards the choice between models B, 2a and B, 2b, see Article 5, paragraph 2, and Article 10, paragraph 3, of this Convention.

3. "PRIORITY ROAD" sign

(a) The "PRIORITY ROAD" sign shall be sign B, 3, **which shall be used to notify users of a road that, at intersections of that road with other roads, the drivers of vehicles moving along or coming from such other roads are required to give way to vehicles moving along that road.** It shall consist of a square with one diagonal vertical. The rim of the sign shall be black; the sign shall have in its centre a yellow or orange square with a black rim; the space between the two squares shall be white.

(b) The side of the normal sized sign shall measure approximately 0.50 m; the side of the small sign shall measure not less than 0.35 m.

Comment: the definition from Article 10, paragraph 7 was moved to the annex 1.

4. "END OF PRIORITY" sign

The "END OF PRIORITY" sign shall be sign B, 4, **which shall be used to notify users that the road along which they are moving ceases to have priority over other roads.** It shall consist of sign B, 3 ~~above~~ with the addition of a black ~~or grey~~ median band perpendicular to the lower left and upper right sides of the square or, **preferably**, of ~~grey~~ black parallel lines forming such a band.

Comment: the definition, modified, from Article 10, paragraph 7 was moved to the annex 1. The changes concerning the depiction of B, 4 sign was already accepted by the Group of Experts.

Section E

SPECIAL REGULATION SIGNS

II. Descriptions

7. Signs indicating the beginning and the end of a built-up area⁵¹

(a) The sign to indicate the beginning of a built-up area shall bear the name of the built-up area or the symbol showing the silhouette of a built-up area or the two combined. Signs E, 7a; E, 7b; **and** E, 7c ~~and E, 7d~~ are examples of signs showing the beginning of a built-up area.

(b) The sign showing the end of a built-up area shall be identical except that it shall be crossed by an oblique bar coloured red or consisting of parallel lines coloured red running from the upper right edge to the lower left edge. Signs E, 8a; E, 8b; **and** E, 8c ~~and E, 8d~~ are examples of signs indicating the end of a built-up area.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 6, paragraph 1 of this Convention these signs may be placed on the reverse side of signs identifying a built-up area.

(c) The signs covered by this paragraph shall be used in conformity with the provisions of the Convention, Article 13 bis, paragraph 2. **These signs shall notify road-users that the general regulations governing traffic in built-up areas in the territory of the State apply from signs indicating the beginning to signs indicating the end of a built-up area except in so far as different regulations may be notified by other signs on certain sections of road in the built-up area. However, sign B, 4 shall always be placed on a priority road marked with sign B, 3 if that road ceases to have priority where it passes through the built-up area. The provisions of Section G, subsection I, paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 apply to these signs.**¹²

Comment: the text added comes from deleted text from Article 13 bis, paragraph 2.

9. Signs notifying the entry to or exit from a tunnel where special rules apply

(a) Sign E, 11a 'TUNNEL' indicates a section of road passing through a tunnel and on which special traffic rules apply. It is placed at the point from which these rules apply. **It should be used for tunnels of 1,000 m or more and in cases provided for by domestic legislation.**

Comment: the text added comes from deleted text from Article 13 bis, paragraph 2 bis.

(b) In order to warn road users in advance, sign E, 11a may be placed in addition at a suitable distance before the point where the special rules apply; such sign shall show, either in its lower part, **or in accordance with** ~~on an additional panel H, 1, as described in section H, paragraph 2 (a) of this Annex,~~ the distance between the point at which it is set up and the point from which these special rules apply.

(c) Sign E, 11b 'END OF TUNNEL' may be placed at the point from which the special rules no longer apply.

10. "PEDESTRIAN CROSSING" sign⁵²

(a) Sign E, 12a, "PEDESTRIAN CROSSING", is used to show pedestrians and drivers the position of a pedestrian crossing. The ground of the panel shall be blue or black, the triangle white or yellow and the symbol black or dark blue; the symbol displayed shall be symbol A, 12.

(b) However, the sign E, 12b, having the shape of an irregular pentagon, a blue ground and a white symbol or the sign E, 12c, having a dark ground and white symbol may also be used.

(c) **Signs E, 12a; E, 12b or E, 12c shall be placed at pedestrian crossings when the competent authorities consider it advisable.**

Comment: the text added comes from deleted text from Article 13 bis, paragraph 3.

Section G

~~DIRECTION, POSITION OR INDICATION~~ **OTHER INFORMATION**
SIGNS

I. General characteristics and symbols

6. The inscription of words on other informative signs ~~(ii) of Article 5, paragraph 1(e)~~, in countries not using the Latin alphabet shall be both in the national language and in the form of a transliteration into the Latin alphabet reproducing as closely as possible the pronunciation in the national language.

7. In countries not using the Latin alphabet, the words in Latin characters may be entered either on the same sign as the words in the national language or on a repeat sign.

8. A sign shall not bear inscriptions in more than two languages.

Comment: the text added comes from deleted text from Article 14, paragraph 2 to 4.
