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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
(Thirty-fifth session, 3-6 October 2000,
agenda item 2 (e))

**AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
1968 CONVENTIONS ON ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS
AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM**

Note by the secretariat

1. At the Working Party's thirty-third session, the delegate of Belgium, in regard to the safety of pedestrians, referred to the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article 20 Rules applicable to pedestrians of the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic regarding which side of the carriageway pedestrians should use when there is no sidewalk, and suggested that perhaps an amendment of the Convention might be required.

2. The above-mentioned paragraph states that:

“5. It is recommended that domestic legislation should provide as follows: pedestrians walking on the carriageway shall keep to the side opposite to that appropriate to the direction of traffic except where to do so places them in danger. However, persons pushing a cycle, a moped or a motor cycle, and groups of pedestrians led by a person in charge or forming a procession shall in all cases keep to the side of the carriageway appropriate to the direction of traffic. Unless they form a procession, pedestrians walking on the carriageway shall, by night or when visibility is poor and, by day, if the density of vehicular traffic so requires, walk in single file wherever possible.”

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3. The delegate of the Russian Federation made the following comments: The requirements in section 4 of the Road Traffic Regulations of the Russian Federation are fully consistent with the rules applicable to pedestrians, whether inside or outside localities, that are set forth in article 20 of the Convention on Road Traffic and paragraph 16 of the annex to the corresponding European Agreements.

4. In particular, when using the carriageway outside localities, pedestrians must walk facing against the flow of vehicles and persons travelling in invalid chairs or pushing a motorcycle, moped or bicycle must keep to the right-hand side of the road. Organized groups of pedestrians must, likewise, walk on the right-hand side (and not more than four abreast) and must, furthermore, be accompanied by a person bearing red signal flags or, during periods of darkness or impaired visibility, illuminated lanterns, white to the front of the group and red to the rear.
