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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport
(One-hundred-and-eighth session, 11-15 October 2004,
agenda item 4 (b))

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE HARMONIZATION OF FRONTIER
CONTROLS OF GOODS, 1982
("HARMONIZATION CONVENTION")**

Preparation of a new Annex on efficient border crossing procedures

Transmitted by the European Community (EC)

Note: The secretariat reproduces below a communication transmitted by the European Community (EC).

1. The European Community would like to bring to your notice the following errors and/or inconsistencies with the Commission services have detected while studying the text of the proposed new Annex 8 as set out in document TRANS/WP.30/AC.3/2004/1.

Article 3, paragraph 2: the text refers to the transfer of all necessary control procedures to the place of "origin ... of the goods". The European Community believes that the text should in fact refer to the place where the transport of the goods originated. To avoid any confusion it is proposed that the word "departure" should be used instead of "origin".

Article 3, paragraph 3(ii): the text refers to just "regulatory" controls whereas subparagraph (i) refers to "regulatory, administrative, Customs and sanitary" controls. It is proposed to delete the word "regulatory" and so apply subparagraph (ii) to all the types of controls referred to in subparagraph (i).

Article 6 (vi): the intended meaning of this subparagraph is unclear. It is proposed that the subparagraph be redrafted to read as follows: "Encourage forwarding agents to establish adequate facilities at border crossings with the intention that they can offer services to transport operators on a competitive basis."

Appendix 2, paragraph 4(a): The English language version of this subparagraph would be clearer if it read as follows: "The Contracting Party accepting such certificates shall ensure the competence of the weighing stations by, for example, an accreditation or assessment process and shall ensure the use of the appropriate weighing instruments, the deployment of qualified personnel, and the existence of properly documented quality control systems and testing procedures."

International Vehicle Weight Certificate:

Item 4 (page 16 of document): Unlike the French language version, the English text does not include the equivalent text "*ou mieux*". In order to align the two language versions, it is proposed to add the text "or better" to the English version.

Declaration (page 17 of document): While it is clear that the declaration can be signed by either the transport operator or the driver, the signatory box only makes provision for the driver. To be consistent, provision should also be made for the transport operator to sign the declaration.

Notes for completion (page 18 of document): With regard to the penultimate line of the text under the heading "PROCEDURE", the French and English versions are not aligned. The error tolerances are given as "or less" in English and "*ou mieux*" in French. Which, if either, is correct? With regard to the second subparagraph of the text under the heading "SANCTIONS", the English and French versions are also not aligned. It is proposed that the phrase "*qui est généralement de 1 à 3%*" is deleted from the French version.

2. The European Community requests the UNECE secretariat to present these comments and proposed modifications to the Working Party WP.30 and the Administrative Committee WP.30/AC.3 for consideration at the forthcoming sessions.
