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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1)
(Ninety-seventh session, 28-30 October 2003,
agenda item 4)

**REVISION OF THE EUROPEAN AGREEMENT CONCERNING
THE WORK OF CREWS OF VEHICLES ENGAGED IN
INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT (AETR)**

Note by the secretariat

The Working Party on Road Transport (SC.1) at its ninety-sixth session adopted all the necessary amendments for the introduction of the digital tachograph into the AETR (TRANS/SC.1/371/Add.1). These amendments were endorsed by the Inland Transport Committee at its sixty-fifth session (ECE/TRANS/152). The purpose of one of these amendments (article 13 of the main text of the AETR) is to define the conditions for their implementation, and in particular the establishment of a transitional period of four years.

In order to clarify the situation in international traffic, during this transitional period, of drivers of vehicles fitted with a digital tachograph whose country of residence is not in a position to issue driver cards, the French authorities, in agreement with the European Commission, have transmitted a proposal to the secretariat with a view to rounding off article 13 of the Agreement and adding a new article 14 to the Annex to the AETR. These proposals are reproduced below.

Proposals submitted by France

Article 13 of the Agreement

It is proposed to amend paragraphs 1 and 2 as follows:

1. All the new provisions of the present Agreement, including its Annex and Appendices 1B and 2, relating to the introduction of a **digital control device**, shall become mandatory for countries which are Contracting Parties to this Agreement at latest four years after the date of entry into force of the relevant amendments resulting from the procedure specified in article 21. All vehicles covered by this Agreement which entered into service for the first time after the expiry of this deadline shall accordingly be equipped with a control device conforming to these new requirements.

2. (a) The Contracting Parties shall take the necessary steps to be able to issue the driver cards referred to in the Annex to the present Agreement, as amended, at latest three months before the expiry of the four-year deadline referred to in paragraph 1. This minimum period of three months shall also be complied with in the event of the implementation by a Contracting Party of the provisions relating to the digital control device before the expiry of the four-year deadline. Such State shall keep the secretariat of the Working Party on Road Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe informed of progress in the introduction of the device on its territory.

(b) **Pending the issue by Contracting Parties of the cards referred to in (a), the provisions of article 14 of the Annex to this Agreement shall apply to drivers who may be required to drive vehicles fitted with a digital control device in accordance with Appendix 1B to this Annex.**

Annex to the AETR

It is proposed to add a new article 14 to the Annex to read:

“Article 14

Pursuant to article 13, paragraph 2 (b) of the Agreement, drivers to whom the competent authorities have not yet been able to issue the driver card and who, during the transitional 4-year period referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, drive in international traffic a vehicle fitted with a control device in accordance with Appendix 1B to this Annex, shall at the end of their daily work period print out the information relating to the periods of time recorded by the control device and mark on that document the details that enable them to be identified (name and number of their driving licence), including their signature.”
