Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

Sixty-fourth session
Geneva, 24-27 September 2012
Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda
Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals:
Charging points for electric vehicles

Proposed amendments to the Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2)

Note by the secretariat*

This document has been prepared on the basis of ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2011/2 and ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2011/10 with contributions from the Government of Portugal. Amendments are proposed on paragraphs 1.12, 1.13, Annexes V and VI of the Consolidated Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/119/Rev.2). These concern the road signs (F type) indicating the location of fuelling stations selling electricity and additional panels (H type) accompanying E14 (in cases of applicability) and C18 sign (in cases of inapplicability). A number of equally valid alternatives (for both the road sign and additional panel) are proposed (for incorporation into R.E.2) given that consensus was not reached at WP.1, on a unique road sign and additional panel model. This document also proposes additional editorial changes to paragraphs 1.12 and 1.13 (and corresponding Annexes V and VI).

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2012–2013 (ECE/TRANS/2012/9, cluster C, page 9) the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) examines matters and adopts measures aimed at improving road traffic safety. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
The modifications to the text of paragraphs 1.12, 1.13, Annex V and VI are marked in bold and underline for new and strikethrough for deleted character.

1.12 Additional panels indicating the applicability of road signs

In cases where the applicability (or inapplicability) of a road sign has to be indicated, road users shall be informed of this by means of additional panels placed below the signs concerned:

(a) On the additional panels, symbols of the existing road signs can be used with the same meaning;

(b) The additional panel shown under point 1 “Type of vehicle” in figure 1 of Annex V to this Consolidated Resolution indicates a passenger car;

(c) The “Period of applicability” panels shown in figure 2 of Annex V to this Consolidated Resolution indicate the time or duration or the days of the week when the sign is applicable;

(d) The “Method of parking” panels shown in figure 3 of Annex V to this Consolidated Resolution indicate how cars must be parked;

(e) The “Blind pedestrians” panel shown in figure 4 of Annex V to this Consolidated Resolution indicates that the crossing in question is used by blind people;

(f) The “Electric vehicles” panels shown in Annex V to this Consolidated Resolution present panels that are recommended to be used with the appropriate road signs indicating or prohibiting parking.

1.13 Road signs to indicate fuelling stations selling alternative fuels. Bold print in the original text to be removed

(a) As the alternative fuels such as the (Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), hydrogen (H₂) and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)) fuelling infrastructure continues to grow internationally and vehicles using one or the other these fuels increasingly cross borders more frequently cross borders, drivers in international traffic are experiencing difficulties in knowing where they can buy alternative fuels. This is partly because there is no recognizable, international standard corresponding indicating for the locations of fuelling stations highway signs selling these fuels.

In order to facilitate the task of consumers, it is recommended that, when a pictogram is used to indicate that CNG, LPG, H₂ and LNG can be obtained in a service fuelling station, it is recommended that the type of pictogram shown in Annex VI (paragraph 1.13 (a)) of this Resolution should be used.

The pictogram is composed of the existing service station symbol F, 4 in black (as defined in the 1968 Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals), with the same symbol in blue in the background, shifted diagonally to the right. It should be complemented by the English acronyms CNG, LPG, H₂ or LNG in black lettering to indicate the type of fuel available in the fuelling station. This sign may be complemented, if necessary, by an additional panel indicating the corresponding acronym or name in use in the language of the country in question.

(b) During the last few decades, increased concerns about the environmental impact of the petroleum-based transport infrastructure have led to interest in electric propulsion systems.
Drivers in international traffic however may experience difficulties knowing where they can charge vehicles that completely or partially use electricity for propulsion since there is no recognizable, international standard for a road sign which informs of the location of charging points for electrical vehicles.

In order to better inform drivers and harmonize, to the extent possible, road signs in use, it is recommended that one of the signs showed in Annex VI (paragraph 1.13 (b)) be used to designate charging points for electric vehicles.

The signs are composed of the "F" sign (as defined in the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals) with the symbol “F,4” inscribed in black or in black and dark blue accompanied by a symbol of an electrical plug in black or dark blue.

Annex V 5. Electric vehicles

Belgium

Denmark

Portugal

Sweden
Annex VI Road Signs for fuelling stations selling alternative fuels

(Paragraph 1.13 (a))

Retain the existing LPG, CNG, LNG and H2 model signs here

(Paragraph 1.13 (b))

The following illustrates the recommended road signs to indicate the locations of refuelling points for electric vehicles (examples from Belgium, Denmark, Portugal and Sweden).

Belgium

Denmark

Portugal

Sweden