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Rectangular vs additional panels

Note by the Secretariat

At the ninth session, the Group of Experts requested the secretariat to draft amendment proposals to ensure a consistent use of the term ‘rectangular panels’ in the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals (and in the 1971 European Agreement Supplementing the Convention). This document provides a list of provisions where the secretariat believes the term “rectangular panel(s)” should be replaced with the term “additional panel(s)” in order to maintain consistency of their use.

The secretariat has found the following provisions in the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals and its 1971 supplement that may benefit from replacing the term “rectangular panel” with the term “additional panel”. The secretariat also suggests considering other minor revisions. Proposed deletions are identified by ~~strike through~~ while additions are shown in **bold**.

1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals

Article 8

3. Nothing in this Convention shall prohibit the addition, mainly in order to facilitate the interpretation of signs, of an inscription in ~~a rectangular~~ **an additional** panel ~~below the sign~~ or in a rectangular panel containing the sign; such an inscription may also be placed on the sign itself, if this does not make the sign more difficult to understand for drivers who cannot understand the inscription.⁸

Article 10

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~~ **an additional** panel bearing the "STOP" ~~symbol~~ **inscription** and a figure indicating the distance to the sign B, 2 shall be used.¹⁴

Section E

14. Signs indicating a stopping place in case of emergency or danger Sign E, 18⁵⁵ “EMERGENCY STOPPING PLACE” indicates a place which shall only be used by drivers for stopping ~~or parking~~ in case of emergency or danger. If this stopping place is equipped with an emergency telephone and/or an extinguisher, the sign shall bear the symbols F, 14 and/or F, 15⁵⁶ either in its lower part or on ~~a rectangular~~ **an additional** panel ~~placed below the sign~~. This sign has two models, E, 18a⁵⁷ and E, 18b⁵⁸.

1971 European Agreement Supplementing the Convention

7. Ad article 8 of the Convention

Paragraph 3

This paragraph shall be read as follows:

“During the transitional period of ten years prescribed in item 4 of this annex, and thereafter in exceptional circumstances to facilitate the interpretation of signs, an inscription may be added in ~~a rectangular~~ **an additional** panel ~~below the sign~~ or in a rectangular panel containing the sign; such an inscription may also be placed on the sign itself, if this does not make the sign more difficult to understand for drivers who cannot understand the inscription.”

9. Ad Article 10 of the Convention (Priority Signs)

Paragraph 3

Each State shall select B, 2a as the model for the “STOP” sign.

Paragraph 6

To give advance warning of sign B, 1, the same sign supplemented by additional panel H, 1 described in Annex 1, section H to the Convention shall be used. To give advance warning

of sign B, 2a , sign B, 1, supplemented by ~~a rectangular~~ **an additional** panel bearing the “STOP” ~~symbol~~ **inscription** and a figure indicating the distance to the sign B, 2a , shall be used.

