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**Article 1** (Definitions of Terms)

1. In addition to the definitions described in Article 2 of the Road Vehicles Act (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) being applied, the following terms are used, in this Ministerial Ordinance:

- (1) The term “tractor” means any motor vehicle with the construction and devices for drawing a trailer, irrespective of whether the vehicle’s primarily intended function is to draw a trailer or not;
- (2) The term “trailer” means any vehicle intended to be drawn by a motor vehicle and with construction and devices which adapt it to be drawn;
- (2–2) The term “pole trailer” means any trailer intended for transportation of poles, pipes, bridge girders or other lengthy goods, and constructed to be drawn by another motor vehicle connected by the goods;
- (2–3) The term “semi-trailer” means any trailer equipped with no front axle and constructed so that part thereof is put on the tractor and a considerable portion of the weight of the trailer concerned and loaded goods thereof is supported by the tractor.
- (3) The term “fuel cell vehicle” means any vehicle equipped with a device which directly generates electricity by causing hydrogen to react chemically with oxygen, and equipped with an engine operated by the said power.
- (4) The term “unloaded state” means the state where a road vehicle is equipped with things necessary for its operation, such as a full fuel tank, lubricants, coolants etc. in the engine and fuel system, and also with the fixed equipment necessary for its operation;
- (5) The term “high pressure gas” means any gas listed in Article 2 of the High Pressure Gas Safety Act (Law No. 204 of 1951);
- (6) The term “gas container” means any container intended for the storage of any high pressure gas in the preceding Item;
- (7) The term “gas-transporting container” means any gas container fixed to the chassis and used for transporting any high pressure gas in Item (5);
- (8) The term “pressure container” means any container (except those other of the brake system, which are less than 200 mm in inner diameter and less than 1,000 mm in length, or the capacity of which is less than 40

liters) intended for the storage of any compressed gas other than high pressure gases, having a pressure (the gauge pressure; hereinafter the same) of 0.2 MPa or more at normal temperature;

- (9) The term “gunpowder” means any of definitions listed in Article 2 of the Gunpowder Control Act (Law No. 149 of 1950);
- (10) The term “dangerous article” means any goods which come under those descriptions enumerated in the columns of Attached Table of the Fire Prevention Act (Law No. 186 of 1948) and which have the properties enumerated in the said table in accordance with the division prescribed in the said table;
- (11) Deleted
- (12) Deleted
- (13) The term “emergency motor vehicle” means fire-fighting motor vehicles; police motor vehicles; motor vehicles maintained by the Public Prosecutors Office for criminal investigations and motor vehicles used by the Defense Agency for emergency purposes; motor vehicles used for emergency surveillance at prisons or other reformatories; motor vehicles used for interning suspects or exercising surveillance over prisoners at the Immigration Center or Regional Immigration Bureau; motor vehicles maintained by a pharmacist who sells stored blood and used for urgent transportation of stored blood; motor vehicles used by medical institutions for the urgent transportation of internal organs taken from dead bodies (including the body of a brain-dead donor) pursuant to the provisions of the Organ Transplantation Law, doctors who intend to surgically remove these organs pursuant to the provisions of the said Law, or instruments necessary for the said surgical removal; ambulances; motor vehicles used for emergency public service; motor vehicles used by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications to detect illegal radio stations; and motor vehicles used for emergency services authorized by the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.
- (13-2) The term “motor vehicle for road maintenance service” means motor vehicles described in Paragraph 4 of Article 41 of the Road Traffic Act (Law No. 105 of 1960);
- (13-3) The term “motor vehicle registered by a contracting state” means a motor vehicle which has been registered by a contracting state in Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Act Relating to Exception, etc. of the

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Road Vehicles Act as A Result of Convention on Road Traffic (Law No. 109 of 1964; hereinafter referred to as “the Exception Act”);

- (13-4) The term “motor-driven cycle registered by a contracting state” means a motor-driven cycle (including attached vehicles) which has been registered by a contracting state or subdivision thereof in Paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Exception Act in the manner specified by the said Law and which complies with the following requirements, or an attached vehicle which is drawn by the said motor-driven cycle and which complies with the following requirements:
- A. That the motor-driven cycle or attached vehicle has been imported under the provision of Paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, Article 10 of the Act Relating to Exceptions to the Customs Act, etc. concerning the Implementation of the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles (Law No. 101 of 1964), or Article 14 (limited only to portions related to Item (7)) or Paragraph 1 (limited only to portions related to Item (10)) of Article 17 of the Customs Tariff Act (Law No. 54 of 1910);
  - B. That the motor-driven cycle or attached vehicle is solely for the importer’s use; and
  - C. That less than one year has elapsed since the permission of importation under the provision of Article 67 of the Customs Act (Law No. 61 of 1954) was given;
- (14) The term “attached vehicle” means any road vehicle intended to be drawn by a motor-driven cycle and with construction and devices adapted it to be drawn;
- (15) The term “axle weight” means the total weight of all wheels whose centres are included between two parallel transverse vertical planes 1 meter apart, which are perpendicular to the longitudinal centre line of the motor vehicle;
- (16) The term “distance between foremost and rearmost axles” means the horizontal distance between the center of the foremost axle of a motor vehicle (in the case of a semi-trailer, the center of the coupling pin) and the center of the rearmost axle of the motor vehicle; and
- (17) The term “wheel load” means the vertical load applied to the road

surface through one wheel of a motor vehicle.

2. “The state with necessary equipment for operation” in Item (5) of Article 40 of the Act means the state in Item (3) of the preceding Paragraph.