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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

(Forty-first session, 31 March – 3 April 2003,
agenda item 4 (c))

**AMENDMENTS TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1968 CONVENTIONS ON
ROAD TRAFFIC AND ON ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS AND THE 1971 EUROPEAN
AGREEMENTS SUPPLEMENTING THEM**

Driving permits

Note by the secretariat

At its fortieth session, the Working Party based its discussion on TRANS/WP.1/2002/22 and Add.1, TRANS/WP.1/2002/CRP.2/Add.4 and a new proposal prepared by the Russian Federation, Chairman of the small group on driving permits. The attached draft incorporates proposals made at the Legal Group meeting held in Bern from 3 to 5 February 2003. **The new amendment proposals appear in bold underlined italics.** Modifications to the existing text of the Convention appear in italics.

* * *

**Proposals to amend the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic
concerning driving permits**

ARTICLE 41

Driving permits

1. (a) Every driver of a motor vehicle must hold a driving permit;
- (b) Contracting Parties undertake to ensure that driving permits are issued only after verification by the competent authorities that the driver possesses the required knowledge and skill. *The persons authorized to check if drivers have the necessary knowledge and skills must have appropriate qualifications. The contents and procedure of both theoretical and practical exams are regulated by **domestic** legislation;*
- (c) Domestic legislation must lay down requirements for obtaining a driving permit, *including, in particular, those for the theoretical and practical examinations and medical conditions;*
- (d) Nothing in this Convention shall be construed as preventing Contracting Parties or subdivisions thereof from requiring driving permits for other power-driven vehicles and mopeds.

2. **a)** Contracting Parties shall recognize:

- (i)** Any domestic permit conforming to the provisions of Annex 6 to this Convention;
- (ii)** Any international permit conforming to the provisions of Annex 7 to this Convention on condition that it is presented with the corresponding domestic driving permit;

as valid for driving in their territories a vehicle coming within the categories covered by the permits, provided that the permits **are** still valid and that **they are** issued by another Contracting Party or subdivision thereof or by an association duly empowered thereto by such other Contracting Party;

b) *Driving permits issued by a Contracting Party shall be recognized in the territory of another Contracting Party until this territory becomes the place of normal residence of their holder;*

c) The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to learner-driver permits.

3. Domestic legislation may limit the period of validity of a domestic driving permit. The period of validity of an **international permit shall be either no more than three years after the date of issue or the date of expiry of the domestic driving permit, whichever is earlier.**

4. Notwithstanding the provisions **of paragraph 2:**

(a) Where the validity of the driving permit is made subject by special endorsement to the condition that the holder shall wear certain devices or that the vehicle shall be equipped in a

certain way to take account of the driver's disability, the permit shall not be recognized as valid unless those conditions are observed;

(b) Contracting Parties may refuse to recognize the validity in their territories of driving permits held by persons under eighteen years of age;

(c) Contracting Parties may refuse to recognize the validity in their territories, for the driving of motor vehicles or combinations of vehicles in *categories C, D, CE and DE* referred to in Annexes 6 and 7 to this Convention, of driving permits held by persons under twenty-one years of age.

5. An international permit shall be issued only to the holder of a domestic permit for the issue of which the minimum conditions laid down in this Convention have been fulfilled. **An international driving permit shall only be issued by the Contracting Party in whose territory the holder has his place of normal residence and which issued the domestic driving permit or which recognised the domestic driving permit issued by another Contracting Party; it shall not be valid for use in that territory.**

6. The provisions of this Article shall not require Contracting Parties:

(a) To recognize the validity of domestic **or international** permits issued in the territory of another Contracting Party to persons who had their normal residence in their territories at the time of such issue or whose normal residence has been transferred to their territories since such issue; or

(b) To recognize the validity of **domestic permits** issued to drivers whose normal residence at the time of such issue was not in the territory in which the permit was issued or who since such issue have transferred their residence to another territory.

ARTICLE 42

Suspension of the validity of driving permits

1. Contracting Parties or subdivisions thereof may withdraw from a driver the right to use his domestic or international driving permit in their territories if he commits in their territories a breach of their regulations rendering him liable under their legislations to the forfeiture of his permit. In such a case the competent authority of the Contracting Party or subdivision thereof withdrawing the right to use the permit may:

(a) Withdraw and retain the permit until the period of the withdrawal of use expires or until the holder leaves its territory, whichever is the earlier;

(b) Notify the withdrawal of the right to use the permit to the authority by or on behalf of which the permit was issued;

(c) In the case of an international permit, enter in the space provided for the purpose an endorsement to the effect that the permit is no longer valid in its territories;

(d) Where it has not applied the procedure for which provision is made in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, supplement the communication referred to in subparagraph (b)

by requesting the authority which issued the permit, or on behalf of which the permit was issued, to notify the person concerned of the decision taken with regard to him.

2. Contracting Parties shall endeavour to notify the persons concerned of the decisions communicated to them in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 1 (d) of this Article.

3. Nothing in this Convention shall be construed as prohibiting Contracting Parties or subdivisions thereof from preventing a driver holding a domestic or international driving permit from driving if it is evident or proved that his condition is such that he is unable to drive safely or if the right to drive has been withdrawn from him in the State in which he has his normal residence.

ARTICLE 43

Transitional provisions

1. Contracting Parties shall issue domestic driving permits in accordance with the new wording of Annex 6 at the latest 5 years after its entry into force. Domestic driving permits issued in accordance with the earlier wordings of Article 41, Article 43 and Annex 6 to this Convention prior to the expiry of this period shall be recognized as long as they are valid.

2. Contracting Parties shall issue international driving permits in accordance with the new wording of Annex 7 at the latest 5 years after its entry into force. International driving permits issued in accordance with the earlier wordings of Article 41, Article 43 and Annex 7 to this Convention prior to the expiry of this period shall be valid in accordance with Article 41, paragraph 3. After the expiry of this period the Contracting Parties shall recognize international driving permits which conform to the new wording of Annex 7 only if accompanied by domestic driving permits issued before the expiry of this period and which do not conform to the new wording of Annex 6.

Annex 6

DOMESTIC DRIVING PERMIT

1. A domestic driving permit shall take the form of a document.

2. *The permit may be made of plastic or paper. The preferred format for the plastic permit shall be 54 x 86 mm in size. The preferred colour of the permit shall be pink; the print and spaces for the entries to be made shall be defined by domestic legislation.*

3. *On the front side of the permit is the title "Driving Permit" in the domestic language (domestic languages) of the country issuing the permit, as well as the name and/or the distinguishing sign of the country which issued the permit.*





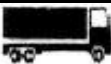








4. *It is compulsory to indicate in the permit the data listed below in the order of the numbers given below and in paragraph 5:*

1. *Family name;*
 2. *Given name, other names;*
 3. *Date and place of birth or origin;*
 - 4.(a) *Date of issue;*
 - 4.(b) *Expiry date*
 - 4.(c) *Name or stamp of the authority which issued the permit;*
 5. *Number of the permit;*
 6. *Photograph of the holder;*
 7. *Signature of the holder;*
 9. *Categories (subcategories) for which the permit is valid;*
 12. *Additional information or limitations for each category (subcategory) of vehicles in coded form.*
5. *Additional information may be entered on the driving permit, if required by domestic legislation, under the following numbers:*
- 4.(d) *Identification number for the purposes of registration, other than the number under 5 of **paragraph 4**;*
 8. *Permanent place of residence;*
 10. *Date of issue for each category (subcategory) of vehicles;*
 11. *Expiration date for each category (subcategory) of vehicles;*
 13. *Information for purposes of registration in the case of a change in country of permanent residence;*
 14. *Information for purposes of registration or other information related to road traffic safety.*
6. *All the entries on the permit shall be made only in the Latin alphabet or, if drawn up in a domestic language, shall be transliterated into the Latin alphabet.*
7. *The information under numbers 1-7 should preferably be on the same side of the permit. The spaces for other data under numbers 8-14 should be set by domestic legislation. Domestic legislation may also allocate a space on the permit for the inclusion of electronically stored information.*
8. *The categories of vehicles for which the driving permit may be valid are the following:*
- A. *Motorcycles;*
 - B. *Motor vehicles, other than those in category A, having a permissible maximum mass not exceeding 3,500 kg and not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat; a motor vehicle of category B coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass does not exceed 750 kg; a motor vehicle of category B coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle, and the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 3,500 kg;*
 - C. *Motor vehicles, other than those in category D, having a permissible maximum mass exceeding 3,500 kg; a motor vehicle of category C coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass does not exceed 750 kg;*

- D. Motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and having more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat; a motor vehicle of category D coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass does not exceed 750 kg;*
 - BE. A motor vehicle of category B coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg and exceeds the unladen mass of the vehicle; a vehicle of category B coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg, and the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled exceeds 3,500 kg;*
 - CE. A motor vehicle of category C coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg;*
 - DE. A motor vehicle of category D coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg.*
9. *Under categories A, B, C, CE, D and DE, domestic legislation may introduce the following subcategories of vehicles for which the driving permit may be valid:*
- A1. Motorcycles equipped with an engine whose maximum working capacity does not exceed 125 cm³ and whose maximum net power output does not exceed 11 kW (light motorcycles);*
 - B1. **Motor-powered** tricycles and quadricycles;*
 - C1. Motor vehicles, with the exception of those in category D, whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 3,500 kg but does not exceed 7,500 kg; a motor vehicle of subcategory C1 coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass does not exceed 750 kg;*
 - D1. Motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and having more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat but not more than 16 seats in addition to the driver's seat; a motor vehicle of subcategory D1 coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass does not exceed 750 kg;*
 - C1E. A motor vehicle of subcategory C1 coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the vehicle, and the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 12,000 kg;*
 - D1E. A motor vehicle of subcategory D1 coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750 kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the vehicle, and the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 12,000 kg.*

10. Domestic legislation may also introduce categories and subcategories of vehicle other than those listed above. **The designations of such categories shall be determined by domestic legislation and should not resemble other symbols used in the Convention to designate categories and subcategories of vehicles; another type of print should also be used.**

11. The categories (subcategories) of vehicles for which the permit is valid shall be represented by the pictograms in the table below.

Category code/ Pictogram	Sub-category code /Pictogram
A 	A1 
B 	B1 
C 	C1 
D 	D1 
BE 	
CE 	C1E 
DE 	D1E 

Annex 7**INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT**

1. The permit shall be a booklet in format A 6 (148 x 105 mm). The cover shall be grey and the inside pages white.
2. The outside and inside of the front cover shall conform, respectively, to model pages Nos. 1 and 2 below; they shall be printed in the domestic language, or in at least one of the domestic languages, of the issuing State. The last two inside pages shall be facing pages conforming to model No. 3 below; they shall be printed in French. The inside pages preceding these two pages shall repeat the first of them in several languages, which must include English, Russian and Spanish.
3. Handwritten or typed entries made on the permit shall be in Latin characters or in English cursive script.
4. Contracting Parties issuing or authorizing the issuance of international driving permits of which the cover is printed in a language other than English, French, Russian or Spanish shall communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the translation into that language of the text of model page No. 3 below.

MODEL PAGE No. 1
(Outside of front cover)

.....	1/
International Motor Traffic	
INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT	
No.	
Convention on Road Traffic of 8 November 1968	
Valid until	2/
Issued by	
At	
Date	
Number of domestic driving permit	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> 4/ </div>	3/

- 1/ Name of the issuing State and its distinguishing sign as defined in Annex 3.
- 2/ ***Either*** no more than three years after the date of issue or the date of expiry of the domestic driving permit, whichever is earlier.
- 3/ Signature of the authority or association issuing the permit.
- 4/ Seal or stamp of the authority or association issuing the permit.

MODEL PAGE No. 2
(Inside of front cover)

This permit is not valid for the territory of
.....1/

It is valid for the territories of all the other Contracting Parties **on condition that it is presented with the corresponding domestic driving permit.** The categories of vehicles for which the permit is valid are stated at the end of the booklet.





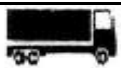

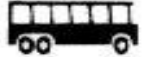

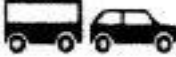

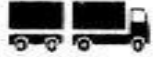


2/

This permit shall cease to be valid in another Contracting Party if its holder establishes his normal residence there.

1/ Enter here the name of the Contracting Party in which the holder is normally resident.

2/ Space reserved for a list of the States which are Contracting Parties (optional).

MODEL 3
Left hand page

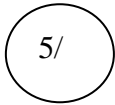
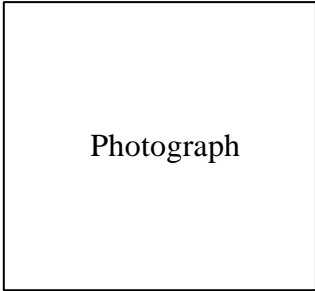
PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE DRIVER	
Surname	1.
Other names 1/	2.
Place of birth <i>or origin</i> 2/	3.
Date of birth 3/	4.
Home address	5.
CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES OF VEHICLES, WITH THE CORRESPONDING CODES, FOR WHICH THE PERMIT IS VALID	
Category code/ Pictogram	Sub-category code /Pictogram
A 	A1 
B 	B1 
C 	C1 
D 	D1 
BE 	
CE 	C1E 
DE 	D1E 
Restrictive conditions of use 4/	

- 1/ Father's or husband's name may be inserted here.
- 2/ If the place of birth *or origin* is unknown, leave blank.
- 3/ If date of birth is unknown, state approximate age on date of issue of permit.
- 4/ For example, "Must wear corrective lenses", "Valid only for driving vehicle No.", "Vehicle must be equipped to be driven by a one-legged person".

MODEL 3
Right hand page

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Stamp 5/	Stamp5/
A	A1
B	B1
C	C1
D	D1
BE	
CE	C1E
DE	D1E



Signature of the holder 6/.....

DISQUALIFICATIONS:		
The holder is deprived of the right to drive in the territory of7/	until 8/	
At	on	
The holder is deprived of the right to drive in the territory of7/	until 8/	
At	on	

- 5/ Seal or stamp of the authority or association issuing the permit.
This seal or stamp shall be affixed near the designation of the categories or subcategories only if the holder is licensed to drive the appropriate vehicles.
- 6/ Or thumbprint.
- 7/ Name of State.
- 8/ Signature and seal or stamp of the authority which has invalidated the permit in its territory. If the spaces provided for disqualifications on this page have already been used, any further disqualifications should be entered overleaf.
