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Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals

First session

Geneva, 27 March 2014

Report of the first session of Expert Group on Road Signs and Signals

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I. Attendance

1. The Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals (GE.2) held its first session in Geneva on 27 March 2014, chaired by Mr. Karel Hofman (Belgium). Representatives of the following member States participated: Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America.

2. The representatives of non-ECE member States also participated: Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Mongolia. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Bina Istria, Croatian Motorways and European Union Road Federation. Easa Husain Al-Yousifi & Sons Company and an independent consultant from United States of America also participated as Observers.

II. Introduction (agenda item 1)

3. The secretariat welcomed the experts and informed them about the objectives of the Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals.

III. Election of Officers (agenda item 2)

4. The Group of Experts elected Mr. Karel Hofman (Belgium) as Chair and Mr. Sergey Storozhev (Russian Federation) as Deputy Chair.

IV. Adoption of the Agenda (agenda item 3)

5. The Group of Experts adopted the agenda without any changes.

V. Programme of Work (agenda item 4)

6. The Group of Experts discussed its programme of work and decided on how to take stock of the existing national legislation to describe and assess the degree of implementation of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European Agreement supplementing it (paragraph 2 (b) of the Group's Terms of Reference). To begin the process, the Experts decided to collect and provide the information concerning the differences between national legislation and the above-noted legal instruments to the secretariat before the next session, by 1 September 2014 at the latest. The Group requested the secretariat to prepare a questionnaire in English, French and Russian and disseminate it informally to the Group of Experts as well as formally to all UNECE member States and all Contracting Parties to the 1968 Convention Road Signs and Signals and 1971 European Agreement supplementing it (the experts are invited to provide, at the minimum, information concerning road sign categories B, C and D in the 1968 Convention).

VI. Other Business (agenda item 5)

7. The Group of Experts was informed by Mr. A. Alyousifi (Easa Husain Al-Yousifi & Sons Company) about the results of his research into comprehension of road signs. The Group of Experts expressed its appreciation to Ms. M. Pronin (independent consultant from

the United States of America) for her very positive, helpful and constructive contribution to the session, in particular to the development of the “road sign questionnaire”.

8. The government of Spain volunteered to initiate research related to paragraph 2 (a) of the Group’s ToR. The preliminary results will be shared with the Group at the next session.

VII. Date and Place of Next Meeting (agenda item 6)

9. The next session of the Group of Experts will take place on 25-26 September 2014 in Geneva.
