

## Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

### Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Ninety-fourth session

10 May 2013

Geneva, 14-16 May 2013

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Other business

## Signs and signals of prohibitions of passage of dangerous goods, R.E.2 and Vienna Convention

Transmitted by the government of Switzerland

### Summary

<b>Executive summary:</b>	The recommendations which appear in the Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) contradict the texts of the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals. As only the texts of the Convention have force of law it is necessary to adapt Convention to what is recommended in the R.E.2.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	To ask the WP.1 to adapt the texts of the Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals to the interpretation which appears in the Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2).
<b>Related documents:</b>	Point 47. of the report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/185/Add.2, INF.11 et INF.11 /Rev.1 of the seventy-ninth session of the WP.15, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/119/Rev.2, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/133

## Introduction

1. We would like to announce to the WP.15 an inconsistency which we had raised during the adoption of the texts during the seventy-ninth meeting of the WP.15 (point 47. and Annex 2 in the report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/185/Add.2) and which persists between the wish affirmed in the Resolution on Road Signs and Signals (R.E.2) (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/119/Rev.2, ECE/TRANS/WP.1/133) to apply the panel of prohibition of passage C, 3h and those of compulsory direction D, 10<sup>a</sup>, 10<sup>b</sup>, and 10<sup>c</sup> to the vehicles carrying the dangerous goods for which a special sign is prescribed and the texts of the Convention on Road Signs and Signals applying to those signs. In this Convention one finds the following definitions for these two signals:

*C, 3h "NO ENTRY FOR VEHICLES CARRYING DANGEROUS GOODS FOR WHICH SPECIAL SIGN PLATING IS PRESCRIBED"*

*To indicate no entry for vehicles carrying certain types of dangerous goods, the sign C, 3h may be used in conjunction, if necessary, with an additional panel. The*

*information given on this additional panel specifies that this prohibition applies only to the carriage of dangerous goods as defined by domestic legislation.*

*10. Compulsory direction for vehicles carrying dangerous goods*

*Sign D, 10a; D, 10b and D, 10c shall indicate the direction in which vehicles carrying dangerous goods shall proceed.*

2. The signal C, 3h applies only to the vehicles carrying dangerous goods for which **a special sign is prescribed** while the signals D, 10<sup>a</sup>, D, 10<sup>b</sup> and D, 10<sup>c</sup> do not depend on the marking of the vehicle but apply to all the vehicles carrying dangerous goods.

3. The current texts of the R.E.2 are summarized in the document [http://www.unece.org/unecedevel.coloiway.ch/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/wp1/wp1fdoc/RE2\\_AMEND\\_2011\\_09.pdf](http://www.unece.org/unecedevel.coloiway.ch/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/wp1/wp1fdoc/RE2_AMEND_2011_09.pdf) )

4. The comparison of the texts of the R.E.2 and those of the Convention for these signals shows that it seems obvious that the interpretation adopted by the WP.1 on proposal of the WP.15 in the Resolution (R.E.2) for the signals D, 10<sup>a</sup>, D, 10<sup>b</sup> and D, 10<sup>c</sup> goes against the texts of the Convention on Road Signs and Signals. Thus according to the Convention on Road Signs and Signals, signals D, 10<sup>a</sup>, D, 10<sup>b</sup> and D, 10<sup>c</sup> apply not only to the vehicles having to carry an orange plate or LQ marking according to the 3.4.13 but, independently of the marking of the vehicle, to those carrying dangerous goods, that is also to those exempted according to 1.1.3.6 and those carrying less than 8 tons of packing according to chapter 3.4.

5. The text of the R.E.2 contradicts that of the Convention. So that the text of the R.E.2 could be applied it is imperative that it does not contradict the text of the Convention. Since only the text of Convention is compulsory it seems necessary to adapt the text of Convention to the explanations which appear in the R.E.2. For that reason it would be necessary that the WP.15 indicates to the WP.1 the relevant modifications to make with the texts of Convention or at least asks the WP.1 to adapt the texts of Convention to those of the R.E.2.

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