



**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals****Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****Forty-ninth session**

Geneva, 27 June – 6 July 2016

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Global harmonization of transport of dangerous goods regulations
with the Model Regulations****Distinguishing sign for motor vehicles
Editorial corrections****Note by the secretariat ¹**

1. The secretariat has been made aware of some inconsistencies in the French text of the Model Regulations in relation to the translation of the term “distinguishing sign for motor vehicles in international traffic” and the related reference to the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic (when mentioned) which appear in several paragraphs: 4.1.4.1 P101, 6.1.3.1 (f), 6.1.3.8 (h), 6.2.2.7.2 (c), 6.2.2.7.4 (n), 6.2.2.7.7 (a), 6.2.2.9.2 (c) and (h), 6.2.2.9.4 (a), 6.3.4.2 (e), 6.4.23.11 (a), 6.5.2.1.1 (e), 6.6.3.1 (e), 6.7.2.18.1, 6.7.3.14.1, 6.7.4.13.1 and 6.7.5.11.1.

2. The secretariat agrees that the inconsistencies in the French text should be corrected, but notes that the English text is not entirely correct and should also be revised for the following reasons:

- (a) The sign is required for motor vehicles but also for trailers;
- (b) Not all countries are Contracting Parties to the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic (1968);
- (c) The sign is also required by the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic to which some countries which are not parties to the 1968 Convention are parties;

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2015–2016 approved by the Committee at its seventh session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 95 and ST/SG/AC.10/42, para. 15).

(d) Although many countries are parties to either the 1949 Convention or the 1968 Convention, some countries in the world are not signatories or parties to any of them.

3. The secretariat reproduces in the annex to this document the list of signs notified to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in relation to international road traffic.

4. As the issue concerned also RID, ADR and ADN, where all references to this term are accompanied by a footnote referring to the 1968 Convention, the secretariat submitted a proposal to the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting in order to rationalize the use of this term in a consistent manner.

5. The proposal was to replace the current text by the following: “the distinguishing sign used on vehicles in international road traffic*”, with a footnote reading as follows:

“* Distinguishing sign of the State of registration used on motor vehicles and trailers in international road traffic, e.g. in accordance with the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic of 1949 or the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of 1968”.

6. For the French text, the proposal was to use the term: “le signe distinctif utilisé sur les véhicules en circulation routière internationale*” with a footnote reading as follows:

Signe distinctif de l’Etat d’immatriculation utilisé sur les automobiles et les remorques en circulation routière internationale, par exemple en vertu de la Convention de Genève sur la circulation routière de 1949 ou de la Convention de Vienne sur la circulation routière de 1968.”.

7. This proposal was adopted by the Joint Meeting, and therefore this wording will be used in RID, ADR and ADN as from 1 January 2017.

8. The Sub-Committee is invited to consider introducing the same amendments in the Model Regulations, i.e. wherever reference is made to the “distinguished sign for motor vehicles in international traffic”, it should be replaced by the text and footnote mentioned in paragraph 5 above.

9. Information on the 1949 and 1968 conventions (text and status) may be found on the UNECE website at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=26749>. Refer to Article 20 and annex 4 for the 1949 Convention and Article 37 and annex 3 for the 1968 Convention.

Annex

(English only)

DISTINGUISHING SIGNS USED ON VEHICLES IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC
 NOTIFIED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 1968 CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC (ARTICLE 45 (4)) ^{1/}
 AND THE 1949 CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC (ANNEX 4) ^{2/}
Status as at 9 March 2016

Contracting Parties	Distinguishing sign
Albania	AL
Algeria	DZ
Andorra	AND
Argentina	RA
Armenia	AM
Australia	AUS
Austria	A
Azerbaijan	AZ
Bahamas	BS
Bahrain	BRN
Bangladesh	BD
Barbados	BDS
Belarus	BY
Belgium	B
Belize (former British Honduras)	BH ^{3/}
Benin	DY
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH
Botswana	BW
Brazil	BR
Brunei Darussalam	BRU
Bulgaria	BG
Burkina Faso	BF ^{4/}
Cambodia	K
Canada	CDN
Central African Republic	RCA
Chile	RCH
China (Republic of)	RC ^{5/}
Congo	RCB
Costa Rica	CR
Côte d'Ivoire	CI
Croatia	HR
Cuba	CU ^{4/}
Cyprus	CY
Czech Republic	CZ
Denmark	DK
Faroe Islands	FR
Democratic Republic of the Congo	ZRE
Dominican Republic	DOM

Contracting Parties	Distinguishing sign
Ecuador	EC
Egypt	ET
Estonia	EST
Fiji	FJI
Finland	FIN
France	F
Gambia	WAG
Georgia	GE
Germany	D
Ghana	GH
Greece	GR
Grenada (Windward Islands)	WG
Guatemala	GCA
Guyana	GUY
Haiti	RH
Holy See	V
Hungary	H
Iceland	IS
India	IND
Indonesia	RI
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	IR
Ireland	IRL
Israel	IL
Italy	I
Jamaica	JA
Japan	J
Jordan	HKJ
Kazakhstan	KZ
Kenya	EAK
Kuwait	KWT
Kyrgyzstan	KS
Lao People's Democratic Republic	LAO
Latvia	LV
Lebanon	RL
Lesotho	LS
Liberia	LB
Lithuania	LT
Luxembourg	L
Madagascar	RM
Malawi	MW
Malaysia	MAL
Mali	RMM
Malta	M
Mauritius	MS
Mexico	MEX

Contracting Parties	Distinguishing sign
Moldova	MD ^{4/}
Monaco	MC
Mongolia	MGL
Montenegro	MNE ^{4/}
Morocco	MA
Myanmar	BUR
Namibia	NAM
Netherlands	NL
Netherlands Antilles	NA
New Zealand	NZ
Nicaragua	NIC
Niger	RN
Nigeria	WAN
Norway	N
Pakistan	PK
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Paraguay	PY
Peru	PE
Philippines	RP
Poland	PL
Portugal	P
Qatar	Q ^{4/}
Republic of Korea	ROK
Romania	RO
Russian Federation	RUS
Rwanda	RWA
Samoa	WS
San Marino	RSM
Senegal	SN
Serbia	SRB ^{4/}
Seychelles	SY
Sierra Leone	WAL
Singapore	SGP
Slovakia	SK
Slovenia	SLO
South Africa	ZA
Spain (including African localities and provinces)	E
Sri Lanka	CL
St Lucia (Windward Islands)	WL
St Vincent and the Grenadines (Windward Islands)	WV
Surinam	SME
Swaziland	SD
Sweden	S
Switzerland	CH
Syrian Arab Republic	SYR

Contracting Parties	Distinguishing sign
Tajikistan	TJ
Thailand	T
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	MK
Togo	TG
Trinidad and Tobago	TT
Tunisia	TN
Turkey	TR
Turkmenistan	TM
Uganda	EAU
Ukraine	UA
United Arab Emirates	UAE ^{4/}
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	GB
Alderney	GBA
Guernsey	GBG
Gibraltar	GBZ
Isle of Man	GBM
Jersey	GBJ
United Republic of Tanzania	
Tanganyika	EAT
Zanzibar	EAZ
United States of America	USA
Uruguay	ROU
Uzbekistan	UZ
Venezuela	YV
Viet Nam	VN
Zambia	RNR
Zimbabwe	ZW

^{1/} Distinguishing signs may be found directly in the text of the Convention via Internet: <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapB/treaty136.asp>

^{2/} Distinguishing signs may be found directly in the text of the Convention via Internet: <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/partI/chapterXI/subchapB/treaty1.asp>

^{3/} After independence the change of the name of the State not notified in the Convention(s).

^{4/} The distinguishing sign was not notified to the UN Secretary-General.

^{5/} Accession on behalf of the Republic of China on 27 June 1957. See also note on behalf of the People's Republic of China (under "Historical Information" in United Nations Treaties: Chapter XI Transport and Communication) at the following web site: <http://untreaty.un.org/ENGLISH/bible/englishinternetbible/historicalinfo.asp>.

**OTHER DISTINGUISHING SIGNS USED BY UN MEMBER STATES, NOT
CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE 1968 CONVENTION ON ROAD
TRAFFIC AND/OR THE 1949 CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC ***

- Afghanistan	AFG	- Liechtenstein	FL
- Bolivia	BOL	- Mauritania	RIM
- Burundi	RU	- Mozambique.....	MOC
- Cameroon	CAM	- Nauru	NAU
- Chad	TCH/TD	- Nepal	NEP
- Colombia	CO	- Panama	PA
- Dominica (Windward Islands).....	WD	- Saudi Arabia	SA
- El Salvador	ES	- Somalia	SO
- Eritrea	ER	- Sudan	SUD
- Ethiopia	ETH	- Virgin Islands	BVI
- Gabon.....	G	- Yemen Arab Republic	YAR
- Guinea	RG		
- Iraq	IRQ		
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	LAR		