



Global Standards in traffic rules and road signs: Asia's situations and perspectives

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Mandate

- ESCAP resolution 48/11 dated 23 April 1992 recommended that countries in the region should consider acceding to seven international conventions
 - **Convention on Road Traffic (Vienna, 8 November 1968)**
 - **Convention on Road Signs and Signals (Vienna, 8 November 1968)**
 - Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention) (Geneva, 14 November 1975)
 - Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (Geneva, 18 May 1956)
 - Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972)
 - International Convention on the Harmonisation of Frontier Controls of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982)
 - Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR) (Geneva, 19 May 1956).
- Among them are the two conventions that related to road safety. They are the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals.



ESCAP Regional Members

- Convention on Road Traffic (1968)

- Parties: 14 member States

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

- Signatories: 3 member States

Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Thailand

- Convention on Road Signs and Signals (1968)

- Parties: 13 member States

Azerbaijan, Georgia, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

- Signatories: 3 member States

Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Thailand



Intergovernmental Agreement on Asian Highway Network

- 29 countries are parties to this agreement
- Article 4 – Signage of the Asian Highway Network
- Route sign described in Annex III of the Agreement

.. should be placed in all routes of the AH network within 5 years from the date of entry into force of the Agreement for the State concerned..

- Flexible - colour, size of sign, frequency
- Current status
 - Installed: Azerbaijan, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand
 - Ongoing: Cambodia, China, India
 - Planned: Bhutan, Philippines
- For States who are also party to AGR, routes can be indicated by means of either the Asian Highway route sign or the E-road sign
- Road safety mentioned in Annex II (Section 10)

While developing the Asian Highway network, Parties shall give full consideration to issues of road safety.



Intergovernmental Agreement on Asian Highway Network



Thailand



Republic of Korea



Cambodia

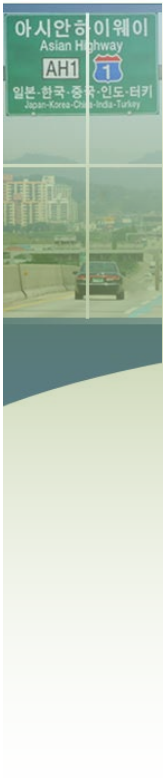


Philippines
(plan)

An attainable dream ?

Current status

- Many countries in Asia are parties to the two conventions and/or AH agreement
- Progresses have been made in some countries (e.g. AH signage)
- For many countries, there're still a lot of works to be done in term of the actual implementation
 - Awareness of the two conventions
 - Allocation of sufficient resources to implement
 - Limited resources are shared among other priority areas to improve road safety



An attainable dream ?

Benefits of harmonization

- Availability of common and harmonized sets of agreed road traffic rules as well as road signs and signals
- Mutually recognizable signs/signals/permits and certificates
- Facilitating international traffic
- Improving road safety (Pillar 1: Road Safety Management)

Next steps

Countries who are not party to the conventions

- Consider the benefits of acceding and undertake necessary legal procedures (for those who have not acceded)
- Consider to take necessary actions to implement the conventions including the installation of standard signs, signal, symbols and markings





Thank you
