



Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety**Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals****Twenty-first session**
Geneva, 30 May 2022**Report of the Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals on its twenty-first session****I. Attendance**

1. The Group of Experts on Road Signs and Signals (GE.2) held its twenty-first session in Geneva on 30 May 2022, chaired by Mr. K. Hofman (Belgium). Representatives of the following ECE member States participated: Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden and Switzerland.

2. The representatives of non-ECE member state also participated: Nigeria and Tunisia. Confederation of Organization in Road Transport (CORTE) and the following private companies were represented: Easa Husain Al-Yousifi & Sons Company, Forschungsgesellschaft Strasse-Schiene-Verkehr (FSV) and International Road Safety Initiative (IROSI).

II. Adoption of the Agenda (agenda item 1)

3. The Group of Experts adopted the session's agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/GE.2/41).

III. Status of the Group of Experts' final report and proposals to amend Annexes 1 and 3 of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals (agenda item 2)

4. The Chair provided an update on the status of the Group of Experts' final report (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2019/4/Rev.1) and proposals to amend Annexes 1 and 3 of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals (ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2019/5/Rev.1). As per the discussions at the Global Forum of Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) in March 2022, WP.1 invited contracting parties to the Convention to review these documents with a view of adopting them at the September 2022 session.

IV. Programme of Work: non-Convention signs (agenda item 3)

5. At the last formal session (25 October 2021), the Group discussed how to identify and assess the non-Convention signs for a possible inclusion in the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals. It decided to distribute a questionnaire to obtain a ranked list of sign areas which reflect governments' priorities (Informal document No.1 (February 2022)). It also decided to hold a number of informal sessions to review the five identified priorities.

6. Subsequently, the Group held four informal sessions and completed reviewing one priority area (i.e., cycle street, zonal validity, and non-compulsory cycle track). The Group requested the Chair and secretariat to prepare an informal document that provides the images and agreed definitions for these signs. Concerning the "cycle street" sign, it is an E category sign (E,6) and the inscription "cycle street" may be added. Concerning the "non-compulsory cycle track" sign, it is an E category sign (E,6) and the inscription "cycle track" may be added to facilitate the distinction with the G,18 sign.

7. The secretariat reminded the Group that its mandate - to complete the current work on "additional" road signs (i.e., the signs which could potentially be included in the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals in the future) - expires on 31 December 2022. The Group decided that it wishes the mandate to be extended until the end of 2024 and, to this end, requested the Chair to request the mandate extension at the September session of WP.1.

8. To accelerate the Group's progress, the Chair and secretariat will propose the dates of possible monthly, informal sessions to be held during 2022 (remotely, in English only). Moreover, the secretariat will explore a possibility of holding additional formal sessions in 2022.

9. The Group began discussing Informal document No. 1/Rev.2 (4 April 2022) submitted by Portugal and agreed to introduce a sign to indicate a cycle crossing. Discussions on this subject will continue during future sessions.

V. Other Business (agenda item 4)

10. The Chair reminded the private sector experts of discussions held on 14 December 2021 and 12 January 2022 with the government and private sector experts respectively. The two meetings were on the topic of the continued participation of private sector experts and, in particular, on these experts' roles and responsibilities in the work of this Group.

11. The secretariat also reminded the Group that all written substantive comments or proposals are to be sent to the secretariat for distribution as documents. No other communication should be considered.

VI. Date of next session (agenda item 5)

12. The next session is scheduled for 3-4 November 2022 in Geneva.

VII. Adoption of the Report (agenda item 6)

13. The Group of Experts adopted the report of this session.
