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CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC
VIENNA, 8 NOVEMBER 1968

PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 1 AND NEW ARTICLE 34 BIS
TO THE CONVENTION

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

On 13 January 2021, the Sustainable Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe transmitted to the Secretary-General the text of a proposal of amendment to the Convention, in accordance with Article 49 (1) of the Convention.

The text of the proposed amendment in the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages¹ can be accessed respectively on the website of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe at the following addresses:

<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/ECE-TRANS-WP.1-173-Add1e.pdf>
<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/ECE-TRANS-WP.1-173-Add1c.pdf>
<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/ECE-TRANS-WP.1-173-Add1f.pdf>
<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/ECE-TRANS-WP.1-173-Add1r.pdf>
<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/ECE-TRANS-WP.1-173-Add1s.pdf>

In this connection, it is recalled that the procedure for the amendment of the Convention is set forth in Article 49, which in its entirety reads as follows:

- “1. After this Convention has been in force for one year, any Contracting Party may propose one or more amendments to the Convention. The text of any proposed amendment, accompanied by an explanatory memorandum, shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General who shall communicate it to all Contracting Parties. The Contracting Parties shall have the opportunity of informing him within a period of twelve months following the date of its circulation whether they: (a) accept the amendment; or (b) reject the amendment; or (c) wish that a conference be convened to consider the amendment. The Secretary-General shall also transmit the text of the proposed amendment to all other States referred to in Article 45, paragraph 1 of this Convention.
2. (a) Any proposed amendment communicated in accordance with the preceding paragraph shall be deemed to be accepted if within the period of twelve months referred to in the preceding paragraph less than one-third of the Contracting Parties inform the Secretary-General that they either reject the amendment or wish that a conference be convened to consider it. The Secretary-General shall notify all Contracting Parties of each acceptance or rejection of any proposed amendment and of requests that a conference be convened. If the total number of such rejections and requests received during the specified period of twelve months is less than one-third of the total number of Contracting Parties, the Secretary-General shall notify all

¹ The authentic texts of the Convention are in the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish languages.

Contracting Parties that the amendment will enter into force six months after the expiry of the period of twelve months referred to in the preceding paragraph for all Contracting Parties except those which, during the period specified, have rejected the amendment or requested the convening of a conference to consider it.

(b) Any Contracting Party which, during the said period of twelve months, has rejected a proposed amendment or requested the convening of a conference to consider it may at any time after the end of such period notify the Secretary-General that it accepts the amendment, and the Secretary-General shall communicate such notification to all the other Contracting Parties. The amendment shall enter into force, with respect to the Contracting Parties which have notified their acceptance, six months after receipt by the Secretary-General of their notification.

3. If a proposed amendment has not been accepted in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article and if within the period of twelve months specified in paragraph 1 of this Article less than half of the total number of the Contracting Parties inform the Secretary-General that they reject the proposed amendment and if at least one-third of the total number of Contracting Parties, but not less than ten, inform him that they accept it or wish a conference to be convened to consider it, the Secretary-General shall convene a conference for the purpose of considering the proposed amendment or any other proposal which may be submitted to him in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article.
4. If a conference is convened in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article, the Secretary-General shall invite to it all States referred to in Article 45, paragraph 1 of this Convention. He shall request all States invited to the conference to submit to him, at least six months before its opening date, any proposals which they may wish the conference to consider in addition to the proposed amendment and shall communicate such proposals, at least three months before the opening date of the conference, to all States invited to the conference.
5. (a) Any amendment to this Convention shall be deemed to be accepted if it has been adopted by a two-thirds majority of the States represented at the conference, provided that such majority comprises at least two-thirds of the Contracting Parties represented at the conference. The Secretary-General shall notify all Contracting Parties of the adoption of the amendment, and the amendment shall enter into force twelve months after the date of his notification for all Contracting Parties except those which during that period have notified the Secretary-General that they reject the amendment.
6. (b) A Contracting Party which has rejected an amendment during the said period of twelve months may at any time notify the Secretary-General that it accepts the amendment, and the Secretary-General shall communicate such notification to all the other Contracting Parties. The amendment shall enter into force, with respect to the Contracting Party which has notified its acceptance, six months after receipt by the Secretary-General of the notification or at the end of the said period of twelve months, whichever is later.

If the proposed amendment is not deemed to be accepted pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article and if the conditions prescribed by paragraph 3 of this Article for convening a conference are not fulfilled, the proposed amendment shall be deemed to be rejected.”

14 January 2021

