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

The Government of Norway, in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 23 of the above-mentioned Agreement, has proposed certain amendments to the Agreement.

A copy of the English and French texts of the proposed amendments, which were adopted by the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe at its fifty-third session on 1 February 1991 (doc. ECE/TRANS/87), is transmitted herewith.

In this connexion, it is recalled that the procedure for the amendment of the Agreement is set forth in paragraphs 1 to 7 of article 23, which read as follows:

"1. Any Contracting Party may propose one or more amendments to this Agreement. The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall communicate it to all Contracting Parties and inform thereof all the other States referred to in article 16, paragraph 1, of this Agreement.

2. Within a period of six months from the date on which the proposed amendment is communicated by the Secretary-General, any Contracting Party may inform the Secretary-General:

(a) that it has an objection to the amendment proposed; or

(b) that, although it intends to accept the proposal, the conditions necessary for such acceptance are not yet fulfilled in its State.

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3. If a Contracting Party sends to the Secretary-General a communication such as is provided for in paragraph 2 (b) of this article, it may, so long as it has not notified the Secretary-General of its acceptance of the proposed amendment, submit an objection to the proposed amendment within a period of nine months following the expiry of the six-month period provided for its communication.

4. If an objection to the proposed amendment is stated in accordance with the terms of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, the amendment shall be deemed not to have been accepted and shall be of no effect.

5. If no objection to the proposed amendment has been stated under paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article, then the amendment shall be deemed to have been accepted as from the date specified below:

(a) if no Contracting Party has sent a communication to the Secretary-General under paragraph 2 (b) of this article: on the expiry of the period of six months referred to in paragraph 2 of this article;

(b) if any Contracting Party has sent a communication to the Secretary-General under paragraph 2 (b) of this article: on the earlier of the following two dates:

- the date by which all the Contracting Parties which sent such communications have notified the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the proposal, subject to the proviso that, if all the acceptances were notified before the expiry of the period of six months referred to in paragraph 2 of this article, this date shall be taken to be the date of expiry of the said six-month period;

- the date of expiry of the period of nine months referred to in paragraph 3 of this article.

6. Any amendment deemed to be accepted shall enter into force three months after the date on which it was deemed to be accepted.

7. The Secretary-General shall as soon as possible notify all Contracting Parties whether an objection to the proposed amendment has been stated under paragraph 2 (a) of this article and whether he has received from one or more Contracting Parties a communication under paragraph 2 (b) of this article. If he has received such a communication from one or more Contracting Parties, he shall subsequently inform all the Contracting Parties whether the Contracting Party or Parties which have made such a communication raise an objection to or accept the proposed amendment."

24 July 1991