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EUROPEAN AGREEMENT ON MAIN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC
ARTERIES (AGR)

GENEVA, 15 NOVEMBER 1975

PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENTS TO ANNEX I OF THE AGREEMENT

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

At its ninety-nine session held in Geneva from 17-19 October 2005, the Working Party on Road Transport of the Inland Transport Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe adopted certain amendments to Annex I of the Agreement in accordance with article 8 of the above Agreement.

The text of the proposed amendments is reflected in Annex 1 of the report of the session (doc. TRANS/SC.1/377).

In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of all States to paragraphs 1 to 5 of article 8, which read as follows:

- “1. Annex I to this Agreement may be amended by the procedure specified in this article.
2. Upon the request of a Contracting Party, any amendment proposed by it to annex I to this Agreement shall be considered in the Working Party on Road Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).
3. If adopted by the majority of those present and voting and if such majority includes the majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting, the amendment shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the competent administrations of the Contracting Parties directly concerned. The following shall be considered Contracting Parties directly concerned:
 - (a) in the case of a new, or the modification of an existing class-A international road, any Contracting Party whose territory is crossed by that road;
 - (b) in the case of a new, or the modification of an existing, class-B international road, any Contracting Party contiguous to the requesting country, whose territory is crossed by the class-A international road or roads with which the class-B international road, whether new or to be modified, is connected. Two Contracting Parties having in their respective territories the terminal points of a sea link on the class-A international road or roads specified above shall also be considered contiguous for the purposes of this paragraph.

4. Any proposed amendments communicated in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article shall be accepted if within a period of six months following the date of its communication none of the competent administrations of the Contracting Parties directly concerned notify the Secretary-General of their objection to the amendment. If the administration of a Contracting Party states that its national law obliges it to subordinate its agreement to the grant of a specific authorization or to the approval of a legislative body, the competent administration shall not be considered as having consented to the amendment to annex I to this Agreement, and the proposed amendment shall not be accepted, until such time as the said competent administration notifies the Secretary-General that it has obtained the required authorization or approval. If such notification is not made within a period of eighteen months following the date on which the proposed amendment was communicated to the said competent administration or if, within the period of six months specified above, the competent administration of a Contracting Party directly concerned expresses an objection to the proposed amendment, that amendment shall not be accepted.

5. Any amendment accepted shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to all the Contracting Parties and shall come into force for all the Contracting Parties three months after the date of its communication.”

The report of the session (doc. TRANS/SC.1/377), which contains the text of the amendments, can be accessed on the website of the Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe at the following address: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc1/sc1rep.html>.

In this connection reference is made to paragraph 12 of document TRANS/SC1/324 concerning the procedure under article 8 (3) of the Agreement. Paragraph 12 reads as follows:

“12. Regarding such procedure, the Working Party agreed that in order to make it more simple the draft amendments adopted should be communicated to all Contracting Parties and not only to the “Contracting Parties directly concerned” as envisaged under the Agreement, it being understood that for their acceptance the provisions of article 8, paragraph 4 would apply fully.”

In accordance with the above-quoted paragraph 4 of article 8, the proposed amendments shall be considered as having been accepted, if within a period of six months following the date of the present notification, no objection has been received from a competent administration of a Contracting Party directly concerned.

23 February 2006

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