

No. 30670

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**MULTILATERAL**

**Agreement on minimum requirements for the issue and validity of driving permits (APC) (with annexes). Concluded at Geneva on 1 April 1975**

*Authentic texts: English, French and Russian.*

*Registered ex officio on 31 January 1994.*

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**MULTILATÉRAL**

**Accord sur les exigences minimales pour la délivrance et la validité des permis de conduire (APC) [avec annexes]. Conclu à Genève le 1<sup>er</sup> avril 1975**

*Textes authentiques : anglais, français et russe.*

*Enregistré d'office le 31 janvier 1994.*

## AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE AND VALIDITY OF DRIVING PERMITS (APC)

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES,

DESIRING to achieve greater uniformity of rules governing the issue and the validity of driving permits with a view to improving road traffic safety and facilitating the issue of such permits to foreign drivers acquiring normal residence in their territory,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the provisions of Article 8, paragraph 3 and Article 41, paragraph 3 of the Convention on Road Traffic opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968,<sup>2</sup>

HAVE AGREED as follows:

SCOPE AND  
DEFINITIONS

### Article 1

1. This Agreement applies to driving permits other than learner-driver permits, driving permits for riders of mopeds or driving permits for pedestrian-controlled motor vehicles, valid for the categories of vehicles specified in Annexes 6 and 7 of the Convention on Road Traffic opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968. It does not apply to driving permits issued before its entry into force or to the renewal thereof, except as regards the extension of such permits after that date to include additional categories of vehicles.
2. Except when otherwise indicated, the terms used throughout the text of this Agreement have the meaning attributed to them in the Convention mentioned under paragraph 1 of this article.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 31 January 1994, i.e., the ninetieth day after five of the States members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and States admitted to the Commission in a consultative capacity, which had ratified or acceded to the Convention on Road Traffic and the Convention on Road Signs and Signals, both opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968, had deposited their instrument of ratification or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in accordance with article 7 (1):

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Date of deposit of instruments of ratification, accession (a) or notification of succession (d)</i>
Bulgaria* .....	28 December 1978 <i>a</i>
Croatia .....	2 November 1993 <i>d</i>
Luxembourg .....	4 October 1982
Morocco .....	31 March 1983 <i>a</i>
Yugoslavia .....	23 June 1978 <i>a</i>

In addition, and prior to the entry into force of the Agreement, the Secretary-General received a notification of succession from the following State:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of notification of succession</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina .....	12 January 1994

(With effect from 31 January 1994.)

\* For the text of the declaration and reservation made upon accession, see p. 70 of this volume.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1042, p. 17.

3. For the purpose of this Agreement, the expression "group of vehicles" means a subdivision of one of the categories mentioned under paragraph 1 of this article.

DRIVING TEST

Article 2

1. National driving permits shall be issued only to drivers who have successfully passed a driving test appropriate to vehicles in the category or categories for which the permit is to be valid.
2. The national provisions relating to this test shall be no less exacting in substance than those set out in Annex I to this Agreement.
3. The provisions of this article do not apply to the renewal of a permit thus obtained.

PHYSICAL AND  
MENTAL FITNESS  
REQUIREMENTS  
FOR DRIVERS

Article 3

National provisions relating to the physical and mental fitness required to obtain a national driving permit and to continue to hold that permit, shall be no less exacting in substance than those set out in Annex II to this Agreement.

ISSUE OF A  
DRIVING PERMIT  
BY A  
CONTRACTING  
PARTY ON THE  
BASIS OF A  
PERMIT ISSUED  
BY ANOTHER  
CONTRACTING  
PARTY

Article 4

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, paragraph 1 of this Agreement, a national driving permit shall be issued on request by a Contracting Party or subdivision thereof to a driver holding a valid national driving permit issued, in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 2 of Article 2 and of Article 3 of this Agreement, in the territory of another Contracting Party after the entry into force of this Agreement between the two Contracting Parties concerned, without this driver having to pass a driving test or medical examination, provided that:

- (a) the said driver has acquired a normal residence in the territory of the Contracting Party issuing the new driving permit;
- (b) the said driver's age is not lower than that required in the territory of the Contracting Party issuing the new driving permit; and
- (c) the foreign driving permit is surrendered to the competent authorities of the Contracting Party issuing the new permit.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 above shall not prevent a Contracting Party applying, in issuing a new driving permit, the relevant provisions of its national legislation on matters other than those covered by this Agreement.

3. The driving permit thus issued shall be valid for driving the vehicles for which the surrendered permit was valid, and shall be subject to any conditions mentioned on that permit.

SIGNATURE OF  
AND ACCESSION  
TO THIS  
AGREEMENT

4. The surrendered permit may be returned to the authorities that issued it.

Article 5

1. This Agreement shall be open for signature or accession by States members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and States admitted to the Commission in a consultative capacity under paragraph 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission, which have ratified or acceded to the Convention on Road Traffic and the Convention on Road Signs and Signals,<sup>1</sup> both opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968.
2. Such States as may participate in certain activities of the Economic Commission for Europe in accordance with paragraph 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission, and which have ratified or acceded to the Convention on Road Traffic and the Convention on Road Signs and Signals, both opened for signature at Vienna on 8 November 1968, may become Contracting Parties to this Agreement by acceding thereto after its entry into force.
3. This Agreement shall be open for signature until 1 April 1976 inclusive. Thereafter, it shall be open for accession.
4. This Agreement shall be subject to ratification by the signatory States.
5. The instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

APPLICATION OF  
THIS AGREEMENT  
BY A  
CONTRACTING  
PARTY TO THE  
TERRITORIES  
FOR THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS OF  
WHICH IT IS  
RESPONSIBLE

Article 6

1. Any State may, at the time of signing or ratifying this Agreement, or of acceding thereto, or at any time thereafter, declare by notification addressed to the Secretary-General that the Agreement shall become applicable to all or any of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. This Agreement shall become applicable to the territory or territories named in the notification thirty days after the receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General or on the date of entry into force of the Agreement for the State making the notification, whichever is the later.
2. Any State which has made a declaration under paragraph 1 of this article may at any time thereafter declare by notification addressed to the Secretary-General that the Agreement shall cease to be applicable to the territory named in the notification, and the

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1091, p. 3.

ENTRY INTO  
FORCE OF THIS  
AGREEMENT

Agreement shall cease to be applicable to such territory one year from the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of the notification.

Article 7

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after five of the States referred to in Article 5, paragraph 1, have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession.
2. For each State ratifying or acceding to this Agreement after five States have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession, the Agreement shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification or accession.

PROCEDURE FOR  
AMENDING THE  
MAIN TEXT OF  
THIS AGREEMENT  
AND THE  
ANNEXES THERE TOArticle 8

1. After this Agreement has been in force for twelve months, any Contracting Party may propose one or more amendments to the Agreement. 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 six months following the date of its circulation whether they: (a) accept the amendment; (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 the other States referred to in Article 5 of this Agreement.
2. (a) Any proposed amendment communicated in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall be deemed to be accepted if within the period of six 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 six months is less than one-third of the total number of Contracting Parties, the Secretary-General shall notify all Contracting Parties that the amendment will enter into force six months after the expiry of the period of six months referred to in paragraph 1 of this article 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 six 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 Party which has notified its acceptance, six months after the date on which the Secretary-General receives the notification.

3. If a proposed amendment has not been accepted in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article and if within the period of six 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 five, 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 the Contracting Parties and the other States referred to in Article 5 of this Agreement. 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 Agreement 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 six months after the date of this notification for all Contracting Parties except those which during that period have notified the Secretary-General that they reject the amendment.

(b) A Contracting Party which has rejected an amendment during the said period of six 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.

6. 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.

7. Independently of the amendment procedure prescribed in paragraphs 1-6 of this article, the annexes to this Agreement may be amended by agreement between the competent administrations of all Contracting Parties. 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 of the Contracting Party in question shall be considered to have consented to the amendment to the annexes only at such time as it notifies the Secretary-General that it has obtained the required authorization or approval. The agreement between the competent administrations may provide that, during a transitional period, the former provisions of the annexes shall remain in force, in whole or in part, simultaneously with the new provisions. The Secretary-General shall appoint the date of entry into force of the new provisions.

8. Each State shall, at the time of signing, ratifying, or acceding to this Agreement, inform the Secretary-General of the name and address of its administration competent in the matter of agreement as contemplated in paragraph 7 of this article.

DENUNCIATION OF  
THIS AGREEMENT

Article 9

Any Contracting Party may denounce this Agreement by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General. The denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of such notification.

TERMINATION OF  
THIS AGREEMENT

Article 10

This Agreement shall cease to be in force if the number of Contracting Parties is less than five for any period of twelve consecutive months.

SETTLEMENT OF  
DISPUTES

Article 11

1. Any dispute between two or more Contracting Parties which relates to the interpretation or application of this Agreement and which the Parties in dispute are unable to settle by negotiation or other means of settlement shall be referred to arbitration if any of the Contracting Parties in dispute so requests, and shall, to that end, be submitted to one or more arbitrators selected by mutual agreement between the Parties in dispute. If the Parties

in dispute fail to agree on the choice of an arbitrator or arbitrators within three months after the request for arbitration, any of those Parties may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint a single arbitrator to whom the dispute shall be submitted for decision.

2. The award of the arbitrator or arbitrators appointed in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall be binding upon the Contracting Parties in dispute.

DECLARATIONS  
CONCERNING THE  
APPLICATION OF  
CERTAIN  
PROVISIONS OF  
THIS AGREEMENT

Article 12

1. Any State may, at the time of signing this Agreement or of depositing its instrument of ratification or accession, enter reservations on the following points:

(a) declare that it does not consider itself bound by Article 11 of this Agreement. Other Contracting Parties shall not be bound by Article 11 with respect to any Contracting Party which has made such a declaration;

(b) declare that it does not consider itself bound by Article 4 of this Agreement in so far as permits for a given group or groups of vehicles are concerned. Other Contracting Parties shall not be bound by Article 4 of this Agreement in so far as permits for this group or these groups of vehicles are concerned, with respect to any Contracting Party which has made such a declaration;

(c) declare that, notwithstanding the provision of Article 4, paragraph 3, of this Agreement, the validity of driving permits issued in application of paragraph 1 of that article to a driver holding a valid national driving permit bearing the inscription mentioned in Annex I, paragraph 12 of the said Agreement, will be limited to driving only vehicles equipped with automatic transmission.

2. No reservation other than those provided for in paragraph 1 of this article shall be allowed.

3. Any State which has entered a reservation under this article may withdraw it at any time by notification addressed to the Secretary-General.

4. The Secretary-General shall communicate the reservations and notifications made pursuant to this article to all States referred to in Article 5 of this Agreement.

NOTIFICATIONS  
TO CONTRACTING  
PARTIES

Article 13

In addition to the declarations, notifications and communications provided for in Articles 8 and 12 of this Agreement, the Secretary-General shall notify the Contracting



Parties and the other States referred to in Article 5 of the following:

- (a) signatures, ratifications and accessions under Article 5;
- (b) notifications and declarations under Article 6;
- (c) the date of entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with Article 7;
- (d) the date of entry into force of amendments to this Agreement in accordance with Article 8, paragraphs 2, 5 and 7;
- (e) denunciations under Article 9;
- (f) the termination of this Agreement under Article 10;
- (g) reservations under Article 12.

DEPOSIT OF THIS  
AGREEMENT WITH  
THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Article 14

After 1 April 1976, the original of this Agreement shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send certified true copies to all the States referred to in Article 5 of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Geneva, this first day of April nineteen hundred and seventy-five, in a single copy in the English, French and Russian languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

*[For the signatures, see p. 65 of this volume.]*

Annex I

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVING TESTS

THE EXAMINER

## ELIGIBILITY

## 1. General education:

Applicants shall have a certificate of secondary education (at least four years after primary education) or equivalent qualification, unless they undergo an extended special training course.

## 2. Driving permit and experience:

Applicants shall be in possession of a valid driving permit for the category of vehicles for which they will be entitled to conduct tests, except in the case of category D vehicles, for which a C permit may be considered as sufficient. They shall have at least three years of driving experience. During the three years prior to application, they shall not have been disqualified from driving, nor shall they have been found guilty of an infringement of traffic regulations which constituted a serious danger to road safety.

## 3. Minimum age:

The age of the applicant shall be at least 23 years.

## 4. Aptitude:

National provisions shall establish standards of physical and mental fitness, which shall be no less exacting in substance than those set out in Annex II to this Agreement for the issue and renewal of permits of categories A and B. The applicant shall in addition be found psychologically and morally suitable.

## 5. Training:

Applicants shall successfully complete special theoretical and practical training in all aspects of an examiner's profession and, in particular, the driving standards which are required for an examiner.

## DISQUALIFICATION

6. If an examiner's driving permit is suspended, he shall not act as an examiner during the period of his disqualification. However, if the permit has been suspended because of physical incapacity only, the examiner may continue to conduct theoretical tests.

7. If an examiner is found guilty of an infringement of traffic regulations which constituted a serious danger to road safety, his suitability to continue acting as an examiner shall be reviewed by the competent authorities.

## SUPERVISION

8. During the course of their work, examiners shall be supervised in order to ensure that they maintain proper standards.

THE THEORETICAL TEST

## FORM

9. The choice of form shall be such as to establish whether the candidate has the required knowledge and understanding of the subjects listed in paragraphs 10. and 11. of this annex.

## CONTENT

10. Knowledge and understanding of the law, with special reference to the rules applicable to the use of the vehicles of the category for which the permit applied for is valid:
  - 10.1. knowledge and understanding of traffic rules and regulations, signs, signals and markings, and of their meaning;
  - 10.2. basic knowledge and understanding of the technical regulations relating to vehicle safety in traffic;
  - 10.3. knowledge and understanding of rules relating to the driver, in so far as they concern road safety, including, for drivers of category C and D vehicles only, rules relating to hours of work and rest periods;
  - 10.4. knowledge and understanding of the rules applicable to the driver concerning correct behaviour in case of accidents.
11. Knowledge and understanding of other subjects:
  - 11.1. adequate knowledge and understanding of the importance of road safety matters, and especially of the following accident factors:
    - 11.1.1. road traffic dangers, such as danger in overtaking manoeuvres, wrong estimate of speed (effects on braking and safety distances), influence of the weather (snow, rain, fog, side wind, aquaplaning), actions of other road users, and in particular of elderly people and children;
    - 11.1.2. factors likely to reduce the driver's vigilance and his physical and mental fitness, such as fatigue, illness, alcohol and other drugs, etc.;
    - 11.1.3. safety factors relating to the stowage of the loads and to the occupants of the vehicle;
  - 11.2. category A and B vehicles only: basic knowledge of those items of the vehicle which are vital to the protection of its occupants and to road safety, such as brakes, tyres, oil levels, safety belts, etc.; category C, D and E vehicles only: knowledge of the function and simple maintenance of the items mentioned above and of all other vehicle parts and devices of particular importance to safety;
  - 11.3. knowledge of the action which may be required in order to assist road accident victims.

THE PRACTICAL TEST

## THE VEHICLE AND ITS EQUIPMENT

12. - If a candidate takes the test on a vehicle with automatic transmission, this shall be recorded on any permit issued on the basis of such a test;
- Category C vehicles: the permissible maximum weight shall be no less than 7000 kg;
- Category D vehicles: the vehicle shall have not less than 28 seats and shall be no less than 7 m in length;
- Category E vehicles: when the drawing vehicle is of category C and except in the case of a semi-trailer, the trailer shall have at least two axles, the distance between which shall be greater than 1 m.

## CONTENTS

## 13. Skill:

Manoeuvres to be carried out to check the candidate's ability to control the vehicle include mainly:

- 13.1. starting on upgrades;
- 13.2. category B, C, D and E vehicles only: reversing and reverse turning;
- 13.3. braking and stopping at various speeds, including stopping in an emergency if road and traffic conditions so permit;
- 13.4. category B, C, D and E vehicles only: oblique parking, parking on upgrades and downgrades;
- 13.5. turning in restricted widths;
- 13.6. category A vehicles only: riding at slow speed.

## 14. Behaviour in traffic:

The main checks to which the candidate will be submitted are:

- 14.1. correct position on the carriageway;
- 14.2. proper negotiation of right and left bends;
- 14.3. correct manoeuvring in changing lanes and turning off at junctions;
- 14.4. alertness to other traffic;
- 14.5. correct behaviour at intersections, taking full account of all movements of other road users, with special regard to right of way;
- 14.6. driving at appropriate speeds;
- 14.7. use of rear-view mirrors;
- 14.8. correct advance warning of intended manoeuvres;
- 14.9. correct operation of vehicle lighting, warning devices and other ancillary controls;
- 14.10. driving with due care and consideration for pedestrians and other road users;
- 14.11. correct behaviour with regard to public transport vehicles;
- 14.12. compliance with traffic light signals and instructions given by authorized officials;

- 14.13. appropriate action on authorized signals given by other road users;
- 14.14. respect of traffic signs and signals, road markings and pedestrian crossings;
- 14.15. respect of appropriate following and lateral distances;
- 14.16. correct overtaking;
- 14.17. correct use of safety belts if national legislation requires the vehicle to be so equipped.

#### SEQUENCE OF THE PARTS OF THE TEST

- 15. Whenever possible, the part of the test described in paragraph 13, should be carried out before the part described in paragraph 14.

#### DURATION OF THE TEST

- 16. The duration of the test and the distance covered shall be sufficient for the checks prescribed in paragraphs 13. and 14. to be carried out. The duration of the part of the test described in paragraph 14. should be more than 30 minutes, but shall not in any case be less than 20 minutes.

#### LOCATION OF THE TEST

- 17. The part of the test described in paragraph 13. may be conducted on a special testing ground, in which case precise criteria should be laid down for measuring objectively the candidate's manoeuvring ability. The part of the test described in paragraph 14. shall, wherever possible, be conducted on roads outside built-up areas and on motorways as well as in urban conditions.

Annex II

## MINIMUM STANDARDS OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL FITNESS

## DEFINITIONS

1. For the purpose of this annex, drivers are classified in two Groups:
  - 1.1. Group 1: drivers of vehicles of Categories A and B;
  - 1.2. Group 2: drivers of vehicles of Categories C, D and E.
2. By analogy, applicants for a first driving permit or for the renewal of a driving permit are classified in the group to which they will belong once the permit has been granted or renewed.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

3. Group 1: applicants shall be subjected to a medical examination when, in connexion with the formalities they have to comply with and during the tests they have to undergo prior to obtaining a driving permit, it becomes apparent that they have one or more of the medical disabilities mentioned in respect of this group in this annex.
4. Group 2: applicants shall undergo a medical examination before a driving permit is first granted to them and thereafter drivers shall undergo such periodical examinations as may be prescribed in the domestic legislation.

## EYESIGHT

5. An examination conducted by suitably trained personnel shall be undergone by all applicants for a driving permit. In dubious cases the applicant shall be referred to a competent medical authority. At the medical examination, attention should be paid to visual acuity, field of vision, night vision, progressive eye diseases, etc. When the wearing of corrective lenses is recognized by the issuing authority as necessary when driving, this shall be recorded on the driving permit.
6. Group 1: drivers in this Group should have their eyesight tested at the latest at the age of 70 and preferably earlier, and thereafter at appropriate intervals. If applicants or drivers, aged 40 years or more, have a sub-normal vision after correction but nevertheless meet the minimal requirements given in paragraphs 6.1. and 6.2. below, the cause of visual loss shall be investigated before driving permits are granted or renewed. Where ocular pathology is present or suspected frequent periodic tests should be carried out.
  - 6.1. Applicants for a driving permit or for the renewal of such a permit shall have a visual acuity, with corrective lenses if necessary, of at least 0.4, and preferably of a higher standard, in the better eye, or of at least 0.5 in both eyes together; and, on medical examination, of at least 0.2 in the worse eye. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed if, on examination, the applicants or the drivers' vision is

- restricted by more than 20° in the temporal part of his visual field or if the applicant or driver has diplopia or a defective binocular vision.
- 6.2. Applicants or drivers with sight only in one eye may obtain a driving permit or the renewal of such a permit if the monocular condition is certified by a competent medical authority as having existed for sufficient time to allow adaptation and the visual acuity, with corrective lenses if necessary, is of at least 0.8. Such persons shall have unrestricted field of vision in their eye.
7. Group 2: applicants or drivers in this Group should have their eyesight tested on application for a driving permit and preferably periodically thereafter. If applicants or drivers, aged 40 years or more, have a sub-normal vision after correction but nevertheless meet the minimal requirements given in paragraph 7.1. below, the cause of visual loss shall be investigated before driving permits are granted or renewed.
- 7.1. Applicants for a driving permit or for the renewal of such a permit shall have binocular vision with a visual acuity, with corrective lenses if necessary, of at least 0.75 in the better eye and of at least 0.5 in the worse eye. If corrective lenses are used, the uncorrected vision shall not be less than 0.1 and the correction shall be tolerated. Driving permits shall neither be granted or renewed if the applicant or driver has a restricted field of vision or if he has diplopia or a defective binocular vision.
- 7.2. The use of contact lenses by drivers in this Group may be permitted if approved by a competent medical authority.

#### HEARING

8. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed if the hearing of applicants or drivers in Group 2 is so bad that it will interfere with the proper discharge of their duties.

#### GENERAL PHYSIQUE AND PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

9. Group 1: unrestricted driving permits shall not be issued or renewed to disabled applicants or drivers, unless a driving test has established their ability to operate vehicles with conventional controls.
- 9.1. Restricted driving permits may be granted or renewed to disabled applicants or drivers if the vehicles they drive are adapted to suit the requirements of their disabled condition. Any restriction on the driving permit shall state the adaptation required on the vehicle.
- 9.2. In cases of doubt, a practical test shall be made of driving abilities after medical evaluation by a competent authority and, where appropriate, a driving permit for a limited duration can be issued so as to keep such cases under observation. The assessment of physical disability shall primarily be based on mechanical considerations in order to ascertain

whether the disability is likely to interfere for prolonged periods with the efficient and rapid manoeuvring and handling of controls under all driving conditions, including emergency action.

10. Group 2: driving permits shall not be granted or renewed to applicants or drivers who have any disability which is a risk to the proper and safe control of a vehicle.
- 10.1. Medical examination of applicants or drivers shall include the full range, power, control and co-ordination of movements of the body and, in particular, of the upper and lower limbs.
- 10.2. When a disability which is a risk to the proper and safe control of a vehicle occurs after a driving permit has been granted, drivers must stop their activities and undergo an examination by a competent medical authority.

#### CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

11. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers with cardiovascular diseases unless their request is supported by competent medical opinion.
12. With regard to applicants or drivers in Group 2, the competent medical authority shall give due consideration to the additional risks and dangers involved in the driving of the vehicles which form the basis of the definition of this group.

#### ENDOCRINE DISORDERS

13. In cases of severe endocrine disorders other than diabetes, appropriate provisions in respect of the granting or renewal of driving permits shall be established by the domestic legislation.
14. Group 1: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from diabetes affected by ocular, nervous or cardiovascular complications, or uncompensated acidosis.
- 14.1. Driving permits may be granted or renewed for a restricted period to applicants or drivers suffering from diabetes who are not affected by any of the complications mentioned in paragraph 14. above, subject to their remaining under competent medical supervision.
15. Group 2: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who are diabetics needing insulin treatment.

#### DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

16. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from
  - (a) encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis or hereditary diseases of the nervous system associated with progressive muscular atrophy and congenital myotonic disorders;
  - (b) diseases of the peripheral nervous system; or



- (c) trauma of the central or peripheral nervous system, unless their request is supported by competent medical opinion and they are able safely to manipulate the controls of a vehicle and to comply with traffic regulations. Such cases shall be reviewed at regular intervals.
17. Group 1: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from epilepsy. The domestic legislation may provide that, subject to competent medical opinion, permits be granted to persons who suffered from epilepsy in the past but who have been free from attacks for a long time (e.g. at least two years).
- 17.1. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from cerebrovascular disease, unless their request is supported by competent medical opinion and provided that, where necessary the controls of the vehicle they drive are suitably rearranged or modified, or that suitable special types of vehicles are used. The duration of driving permits issued or renewed in such cases shall be limited in accordance with competent medical opinion.
- 17.2. Driving permits should neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who have suffered a lesion with damage to the spinal cord and resultant paraplegia unless the vehicle they drive is fitted with specially adapted controls.
18. Group 2: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who suffer or have suffered in the past from epilepsy, a cerebrovascular disease or a lesion with damage to the spinal cord and resulting paraplegia.

#### MENTAL DISORDERS

19. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who
- (a) suffer from mental disturbances due to diseases, trauma or operations of the central nervous system;
  - (b) suffer from severe mental subnormality;
  - (c) suffer from psychosis, including general paralysis; or
  - (d) suffer from psychoneurosis or personality disorders,
- unless their request is supported by competent medical opinion.
20. With regard to applicants or drivers in Group 2, the competent medical authority shall give due consideration to the additional risks and dangers involved in the driving of the vehicles which form the basis of the definition of this Group.

#### ALCOHOL

21. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who suffer from chronic alcoholism. If the request is supported

by competent medical opinion, driving permits may be granted or renewed for a limited period to applicants or drivers who suffered from chronic alcoholism in the past. Such cases shall be reviewed at regular intervals.

22. With regard to applicants or drivers in Group 2, the competent medical authority shall give due consideration to the additional risks and dangers involved in the driving of the vehicles which form the basis of the definition of this Group.

#### DRUGS AND MEDICAMENTS

23. Drugs abuse: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who are dependent on psychoactive drugs.
24. Drugs or medicaments taken on a regular basis: driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers who regularly take drugs or medicaments which can hamper the ability to drive safely, unless their request is supported by competent medical opinion.
- 24.1. With regard to the applicants or drivers in Group 2, the competent medical authority shall give due consideration to the additional risks and dangers involved in the driving of the vehicles which form the basis of the definition of this Group.

#### DISEASES OF THE BLOOD

25. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from severe diseases of the blood unless the request is supported by competent medical opinion.

#### DISEASES OF THE GENITO-URINARY SYSTEM

26. Driving permits shall neither be granted nor renewed to applicants or drivers suffering from a severe renal deficiency.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF DRIVING PERMITS

27. Domestic legislation shall include provisions to the effect that, subject to competent medical opinion, the driving permit shall be withdrawn when the authorities concerned have become aware that a driver is in a medical condition which would have excluded the issue or renewal of a driving permit.

For Albania:  
Pour l'Albanie :  
За Албанию:

For Austria:  
Pour l'Autriche :  
За Австрию:

For Belgium:  
Pour la Belgique :  
За Бельгию:

For Bulgaria:  
Pour la Bulgarie :  
За Болгарию:

For the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic:  
Pour la République socialiste soviétique de Biélorussie :  
За Белорусскую Советскую Социалистическую Республику:

For Canada:  
Pour le Canada :  
За Канаду:

For Cyprus:  
Pour la Chypre :  
За Кипр:

For Czechoslovakia:  
Pour la Tchécoslovaquie :  
За Чехословакию:

For Denmark:  
Pour le Danemark :  
За Данию:

For Finland:  
Pour la Finlande :  
За Финляндию:

For France:  
Pour la France :  
За Францию:

For the German Democratic Republic:  
Pour la République démocratique allemande :  
За Германскую Демократическую Республику:

For Germany, Federal Republic of:  
Pour l'Allemagne, République fédérale d' :  
За Федеративную Республику Германию:

For Greece:  
Pour la Grèce :  
За Грецию:

For Hungary:  
Pour la Hongrie :  
За Венгрию:

For Iceland:  
Pour l'Islande :  
За Исландию:

For Ireland:  
Pour l'Irlande :  
За Ирландию:

For Italy:  
Pour l'Italie :  
За Италию:

For Luxembourg:  
Pour le Luxembourg :  
За Люксембург:

ALBERT DUHR

Sous réserve de ratification<sup>1</sup>

[9 December 1975 — 9 décembre 1975]

For Malta:  
Pour Malte :  
За Мальту:

<sup>1</sup> Subject to ratification.

For the Netherlands:  
Pour les Pays-Bas :  
За Нидерланды:

For Norway:  
Pour la Norvège :  
За Норвегию:

For Poland:  
Pour la Pologne :  
За Польшу:

For Portugal:  
Pour le Portugal :  
За Португалию:

For Romania:  
Pour la Roumanie :  
За Румынию:

For Spain:  
Pour l'Espagne :  
За Испанию:

For Sweden:  
Pour la Suède :  
За Швецию:

For Switzerland:  
Pour la Suisse :  
За Швейцарию:

For Turkey:  
Pour la Turquie :  
За Турцию:

For the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic:  
Pour la République socialiste soviétique d'Ukraine :  
За Украинскую Советскую Социалистическую Республику:

For the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:  
Pour l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques :  
За Союз Советских Социалистических Республик:

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:  
Pour le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord :  
За Соединенное Королевство Великобритании и Северной Ирландии:

For the United States of America:  
Pour les Etats-Unis d'Amérique :  
За Соединенные Штаты Америки:

For Yugoslavia:  
Pour la Yougoslavie :  
За Югославию:

DECLARATION AND RESERVATION  
MADE UPON ACCESSION*BULGARIA*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

*Reservation*

The People's Republic of Bulgaria does not consider itself bound by article 11 of the Agreement, which provides for compulsory arbitration.

*Declaration*

The People's Republic of Bulgaria declares that article 6 of the Agreement is at variance with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples of 14 December 1960.<sup>1</sup>

DÉCLARATION ET RÉSERVE  
FAITES LORS DE L'ADHÉSION*BULGARIE**Réserve*

« La République populaire de Bulgarie ne se considère pas comme étant liée par l'article 11 de l'Accord qui prévoit l'arbitrage obligatoire ».

*Déclaration*

« La République populaire de Bulgarie déclare que l'article 6 de l'Accord est en contradiction avec la Déclaration sur l'octroi de l'indépendance aux pays et aux peuples coloniaux du 14 décembre 1960<sup>1</sup>. »

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/4684)*, p. 66.

<sup>1</sup> Nations Unies, *Documents officiels de l'Assemblée générale, quinzième session, Supplément n° 16 (A/4684)*, p. 70.