



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/SC.1/2000/10
6 September 2000

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Road Transport
(Ninety-fourth session, 14-16 November 2000,
agenda item 4 (b))

**HARMONIZATION OF REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING
INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT AND FACILITATION OF ITS OPERATION**

Development of provisions on the facilitation of international road transport

**Revision of the Consolidated Resolution on the
Facilitation of International Road Transport (R.E.4)**

The Council of Bureaux of the Green Card System proposes the attached revision to Annex 2 of R.E.4.

The principal changes from the version considered by SC.1 at its ninety-third session in October 2000 are:

- Article 1, the "definition of a bureau", now obliges all members of a bureau to "share in its financing so that the bureau is in a position to meet its financial obligations".
- Article 3 now permits a bureau to "authorise its member insurers to print their own certificates" of insurance.
- Article 15 now asks Governments to inform UN/ECE that a new bureau "has the means to meet its financial obligations".

The amendments have been approved by the Management Committee and the membership of the Council of Bureaux.

* * *

Annex 2

The International Motor Insurance Card system - (the "Green Card System")

1. In each country, the government officially recognises a single organisation established by authorised insurers as its national insurers' bureau. Only insurers authorised for the transaction of third party motor liability insurance can be members of the Bureau of that country and thereby be authorised to issue certificates, mentioned in Article 3 below. All such insurers shall join the bureau and all shall share in its financing, so that the bureau is in a position to meet its financial obligations.
2. The Bureaux, set up in accordance with paragraph 1 above, shall join and support the international body, known as the "Council of Bureaux". The Council of Bureaux is the managing organisation of the International Motor Insurance Card System, (the "Green Card System"), under the aegis of the Working Party on Road Transport of the Economic Commission for Europe. The Council provides facilities for the administration of the agreements between Bureaux and for the consideration of matters of mutual interest for participating Bureaux.
3. The Bureau shall provide its member insurers with certificates of insurance, the "International Motor Insurance Card" (Green Card), valid for one or more countries, or authorise its member insurers to print their own certificates for issue by them to their insureds in respect of any motor vehicles insured by them against third party risks. In either case these shall conform to one of the models referred to in Appendices 1 to 4 to this Annex.
4. A Green Card valid for the country or countries visited certifies the existence of insurance cover in respect of third party liabilities, arising from road accidents caused by a visiting motorist, for which insurance is compulsory.
5. The acceptance of a Green Card by the insured authorises the Bureau, under the authority of which it was provided and the Bureaux of any countries to which such power is delegated to accept service of legal proceedings in respect of any relevant claim.
6. When a claim is made against a person holding a Green Card, the Bureau of the country in which the accident occurred, acting under the authority referred to in paragraph 5 above, shall accept service of proceedings against that person. That Bureau shall handle and if necessary settle, the claim on behalf of the Bureau which provided the Green Card.
7. However, in so far as the law permits, agreements shall be concluded by the Bureaux to permit an insurer authorised to carry out its activities in the country in which the accident occurred to handle claims against its own policy holders.

8. The Bureau of the country in which the accident occurred shall have regard, on request, to the conditions and limitations contained in the Policy of Insurance insofar as these are permitted under the law on compulsory third party motor insurance of that country.

9. Agreements between Bureaux shall provide for reimbursement in full of claims paid and for payment of any charges and fees that may be agreed.

10. Wherever possible, participating governments shall aim at eliminating the inspection of Green Cards at their frontiers by the conclusion by their respective Bureaux of specific agreements for that purpose. The Multilateral Guarantee Agreement, or a successor agreement drawn up by the Council of Bureaux, or similar agreements concluded bilaterally between Bureaux are examples of such agreements.

11. In each country the government of which has adopted this Recommendation, Green Cards established in conformity with any of the models referred to in paragraph 3 above shall be accepted, without any formality or cost, as evidence of insurance complying with the compulsory third party motor insurance law of that country as regards vehicles in respect of which such Green Cards have been issued.

12. Persons arriving with a motor vehicle, but without a valid Green Card of the approved type, in a country where insurance is compulsory or in a country the Bureau of which is not a Signatory of the Multilateral Guarantee Agreement (or a successor agreement drawn up by the Council of Bureaux or of a similar Agreement concluded between that Bureau and the Bureau of the "sending" country) may be required to:

- take out a frontier insurance or, insofar as the law of the visited country permits,
- take out a regular motor insurance policy for that country, or
- contribute to a guarantee scheme for the victims of accidents.

13. In countries where insurance is not compulsory in respect of the category of the vehicle of the visiting motorist, production of evidence of insurance shall not be required.

14. The Green Card shall conform in colour, content and layout to the models referred to in paragraph 3 above. The dimensions of the Green Card may be varied, provided that the format is not changed, but the overall size of the document shall not be larger than A4. The Green Card shall be made out in the language of the Bureau of issue and its title shall also be given in English and French. All data on the Green Card shall be recorded in the Latin alphabet with the option, if desired, to additionally record the same data in other alphabets.

15. Governments of other countries in which compulsory third party motor insurance law is in force and who intend to adopt this Recommendation shall notify the Secretariat of the Working Party that:

- the authorised motor insurers have established, or intend to establish, a Green Card Bureau with the authority to issue Green Cards to their insureds travelling abroad.
- the Green Card Bureau is, or will be, equipped to handle third party claims covered by the Green Cards of visiting motorists.
- the Green Card Bureau has the means to fulfil its financial obligations.
- they will accept Green Cards as evidence that visiting motorists are insured to the extent required by the compulsory third party motor insurance law in that country.

16. Adoption of this Recommendation implies that governments shall place no obstacle in the way of the export of currency to meet the international obligations incurred under the Agreements of the Green Card System. Governments shall provide the Economic Commission for Europe with a written undertaking in this respect.

17. The Secretariat shall inform the governments of all countries concerned and the Council of Bureaux at the earliest possible moment of the notifications received in accordance with paragraphs 15 and 16 above.

18. Any change to the Green Card System or to the format of the Green Card, which may be considered by a participating government or by the Council of Bureaux to be necessary in the light of experience, shall be brought to the notice of the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall refer the proposed change to the Working Party for a decision.

APPENDICES 1 TO 4

Models of the International Motor Insurance Card (Green Card)

Appendix

1. Page 1.1: Portrait format, English, Front
Page 1.2: Portrait format, English, Back.
 2. Page 2.1: Portrait format, French, Front
Page 2.2: Portrait format, French, Back.
 3. Page 3.1: Landscape format, English, Front
Page 3.2: Landscape format, English, Back.
 4. Page 4.1: Landscape format, French, Front
Page 4.2: Landscape format, French, Back.
-