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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Non-Convention signs – road signs for small vehicles

Submitted by FSV*

This document aims at addressing some issues related to the topic of 'small vehicles' as discussed at the last session.

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Small vehicles – TAXI, Tricycles, cargo cycle and hand drawn/pulled vehicle

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0 TAXI, passenger transport



x

			The logic of ISO 7001 (Public information symbols) allows to identify different vehicle classes as Taxis by adding a box (including an inscription) on top of a vehicle, following actual practice (see left). As this inscription is too small to be legible under the conditions of the road traffic environment, Instead, “TAXI” in large, discriminable characters, as in use for road markings, could be used to be combined with a vehicle symbol that represents the mode of transportation, as shown in following examples.
ISO 7001 PI TF 008	ISO 7001 PI TF 035	Road markings	


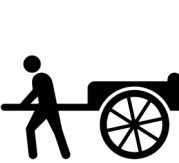
1 Tricycles

		As requested in the last session of GE.2 on 3rd and 4th November 2022, the word “TAXI” was removed from the symbol, see [A2]. The Symbol in [A2a] could be used to address vehicles transporting passengers for commercial purposes.
A2	A2a	



2 Cargo cycle





		Following last session’s discussions, an attempt to create symbol to represent a more generic cargo cycle [A3]. By adding “TAXI”, passenger transportation via cycle could be indicated [A3a]. The question arises, how, if required, cargo cycles for goods transportation and such for passenger transportation could be addressed by road signs individually, see 4.
A3	A3a	

3 Hand drawn/pulled vehicle, C, 3k

		A new proposal for sign C, 3k, as discussed during the session of GE.2 on 3rd and 4th November 2022, is shown in figure [A1]. An attempt to provide a symbol that may be able to stand for both transport of passengers and goods is provided in figure [A1a].	
A1	A1a		
		A1b	In order to specify the meaning of the symbol ‘transport of passengers’, the word “TAXI” is added [A1b]

4 Addressing functions of vehicles

		The sign under [A1c] would forbid entrance for all ‘hand drawn or pulled vehicles’, while [A1d] does not allow for ‘hand drawn or pulled vehicles transporting passengers’. How could access be prohibited for such vehicles carrying goods? The use of Symbol [A1] would be insufficient, due to lacking visual differentiation to [A1a] (see 3).
A1c	A1d	

		In order to differentiate between the transport of goods and transport of passengers, additional panels would be required, in addition, a term to specify ‘goods transport’ such as “delivery” would have to be introduced to the Convention on Road Signs and Signals (which was among the original topics to be dealt with by EG.2. during its work on non-convention signs).
		
A1e	A1f	

5 Discussion

If it is attempted to adhere to previously discussed parameters such as the absence of the use of words to accommodate for a possibly high percentage of roads users in LMICS which may be illiterate, and the inapplicability of additional panels due to financial restraints, It seems quite impossible to address ‘hand drawn/pulled vehicles’ respectively ‘cargo cycles’ that carry goods and those carrying passengers separately with one single symbol. Considering this, it would be required to have two symbols, but these might only be differentiated by rather small graphical details, which is not for the benefit of swift recognition of symbols and their meaning.

On the other hand side, having two symbols would lead to the requirement of showing both when all hand drawn/pulled vehicles are (e.g.) prohibited. This could actually require the system of the Convention to change, as other vehicle categories may be separated in specified sub-categories as well.

So if above mentioned parameters must apply, it might be reasonable to conceive a new “branch” of the Convention on Road Signs and Signals in order to specifically deal with the requirements of LMICS, which should be scientifically investigated and established.

Presumably, the term “TAXI” may be exempted from above parameters – which would require the absence of inscriptions – and could be used, since it is short and can be recognized without reading.

Considering the above, it seems advisable to allow for the implementation of [A2] and possibly [A2a] (see 1).