

No. 6541

**GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS,
NICARAGUA and COSTA RICA**

**Central American Agreement on Uniform Road Signs
and Signals (with annex). Signed at Tegucigalpa,
on 10 June 1958**

Official text: Spanish.

*Registered by the Organization of Central American States, acting on behalf of the
Contracting Parties in accordance with article 5 of the Agreement, on 25 February 1963.*

**GUATEMALA, SALVADOR, HONDURAS,
NICARAGUA et COSTA RICA**

**Accord centraméricain sur l'unification de la signalisa-
tion routière (avec annexe). Signé à Tegucigalpa,
le 10 juin 1958**

Texte officiel espagnol.

*Enregistré par l'Organisation des États d'Amérique centrale, agissant au nom des
Parties contractantes conformément à l'article 5 de l'Accord, le 25 février 1963.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 6541. CENTRAL AMERICAN AGREEMENT¹ ON UNIFORM ROAD SIGNS AND SIGNALS BETWEEN GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA AND COSTA RICA. SIGNED AT TEGUCIGALPA, ON 10 JUNE 1958

The Governments of the Republics of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, desirous of contributing to the safety of road traffic and of unifying as far as possible the system of road signs and signals, have agreed to conclude the following Central American Agreement on Standard Road Signs and Signals.

Article 1

The Contracting States accept the standard system of road signs and signals contained in the annex entitled "Manual on Road Signs and Signals",² which hereinafter shall be called the Manual.

The Contracting States undertake to apply progressively the system set out in the Manual and, for that purpose, the new signs shall be placed as the existing signs are removed.

Article 2

The Contracting States shall authorize their respective authorities to hold periodical mutual consultations and to prepare additions or revision of the Manual, when circumstances so require.

Article 3

This Agreement shall be ratified in conformity with the constitutional provisions of each country and shall enter into force, for each country, on the date of deposit of the relevant instrument of ratification.

Article 4

This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely, but may be denounced by any of the Contracting States by means of a six months' notice.

¹ In accordance with article 3, the Agreement came into force as between the following States on the respective dates of deposit of their instruments of ratification. The instruments were deposited with the Secretary-General of the Organization of Central American States on the dates indicated:

Nicaragua	9 April 1959
El Salvador	29 April 1959

Guatemala	17 November 1959
Honduras	10 August 1962

² See p. 236 of this volume.

This Agreement shall remain in force as between the other Contracting States so long as at least two States continue to be parties thereto.

Article 5

The Secretariat of the Organization of Central American States shall act as depositary of this Agreement and shall send a certified copy thereof to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of each of the Contracting States. It shall also notify the Contracting States of the deposit of the relevant instruments of ratification as well as of any denunciation which may occur within the prescribed time-limit. When the Agreement comes into force, it shall also transmit a certified copy thereof to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for registration in conformity with Article 102 of the United Nations Charter.

Article 6

This Agreement shall be open at any time for accession by the Republic of Panama.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

DONE in the city of Tegucigalpa, D. C., capital of the Republic of Honduras, on 10 June 1958.

For the Government of the Republic of Guatemala :

José GUIROLA LEAL
Minister of Economic Affairs

For the Government of the Republic of El Salvador :

Alfonso ROCHAC
Minister of Economic Affairs

For the Government of the Republic of Honduras :

Fernando VILLAR
Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance

For the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua :

Enrique DELGADO
Minister of Economic Affairs

For the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica :

Wilburg JIMÉNEZ CASTRO
Vice-Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance

MANUAL ON ROAD SIGNS, SIGNALS AND MARKINGS

PART I

ROAD SIGNS

Chapter I

GENERAL

Article 1

1. The present system of road signs comprises the following three classes of signs :
 - a) danger warning signs ;
 - b) regulatory signs ;
 - c) informative signs.
2. Danger warning signs are intended to warn the road user of the existence and nature of danger on the road.
3. Regulatory signs are intended to inform road users of certain limitations, prohibitions and restrictions governing the use of the road, violation of which constitutes a statutory offence.
4. Informative signs are intended to guide the road user in the course of his travel and give him such other information as may be of interest or use to him.

Article 2

1. It shall be prohibited to add or display on any sign or other traffic control device anything not related to the purpose of such sign or device.
2. Any boards, notices and installations which might be confused with the signs or other traffic control devices or make them more difficult to understand shall be prohibited.

Article 3

For the purpose of facilitating the interpretation of the signs, additional information may be given on rectangular plates below the signs.

Article 4

The colours of the signs shall be those prescribed in this Manual.

Article 5

1. Reflecting devices, reflecting substances or illumination used on signs should not dazzle the road user nor impair the legibility of the symbol or inscription.
2. The use of such devices is advisable on important signs which should retain maximum visibility by night.

Chapter II

CLASS I. DANGER WARNING SIGNS

Article 6

Danger warning signs shall be in the shape of a diamond and borders, when the latter are used, shall be black.

Article 7

Danger warning signs shall be in the shape of a diamond consisting of a square with one diagonal vertical.

Article 8

1. The dimensions of sign plates shall be such that the signs can be readily discernible and understandable.

2. For these signs, the length of the side shall be a minimum of 60 cm. If deemed necessary, larger dimensions may be used in multiples of 15 cm up to 90 cm.

3. Reduction of the standard size shall be permissible only in built-up areas, if use of the standard size should be impracticable.

Article 9

The distances in advance of danger points at which danger warning signs should be placed should be determined so as to ensure, both by day and by night, the most efficient use possible of the signs, taking into account the particular conditions of the road and of the traffic, provided that such distances shall not be less than 90 metres or more than 225 metres, unless prevailing conditions so demand.

Article 10

1. Danger warning signs shall be placed facing the traffic and on the right-hand side of the carriageway, as used by the traffic concerned. Under special circumstances, the signs may be placed or repeated on the opposite side of the carriageway.

2. Danger warning signs shall be placed at an appropriate distance from the edge of the carriageway, which shall not be less than 1.50 m or more than 2.40 m (see diagram 1).

3. The height of signs above the ground shall mean the height of the lower edge of the signs from the level of the crown of the road.

So far as possible, a uniform height shall be observed, particularly over the same route.

4. The height of danger warning signs shall not be more than 2.10 m or less than 0.60 m, except in built-up areas or where other special circumstances demand otherwise.

It is recommended that these signs be placed at a height of 1.50 m (see diagram 1).