

CONVENTION ON THE REGULATION OF INTER-AMERICAN AUTOMOTIVE TRAFFIC

The Governments of the American Republics, desirous of establishing uniform rules among themselves to control and regulate international automotive traffic on their highways, and to facilitate the movement of motor vehicles among such States,

Have decided to conclude the present Convention in order to effectuate the foregoing purposes, and have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I

It is recognized that each State has exclusive jurisdiction over the use of its own highways, but agrees to their international use as specified in this Convention.

ARTICLE II

Under the terms of the present Convention, a motor vehicle shall be defined as any self-propelled vehicle circulating upon a public highway without the need of rails and used for the transport of persons or merchandise.

A highway shall be defined as any public way maintained for and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

An operator shall be defined as any person who drives or is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle upon a highway.

ARTICLE III

The operator of a motor vehicle circulating in any State which is a party to this Convention is subject to the traffic laws and regulations in force in that State or subdivision thereof.

A copy of such laws and regulations may be handed to the operator at the time of entering each State, by the customs authorities who are clearing the vehicle for entry, or by any authorized agency.

ARTICLE IV

The Contracting States shall not allow customs measures to be put into effect which will hinder international travel.

Simplified customs and other regulatory measures which have been or may be put into effect by any contiguous States parties to this Convention, for the facilitation of international automotive traffic, shall be considered to be in furtherance of this Convention and shall be encouraged.

ARTICLE V

Before admission to international traffic, every vehicle shall be registered by the State of origin in the manner prescribed by its laws, or by any subdivision thereof having legal authority to register vehicles.

ARTICLE VI

Every motor vehicle operator before admission to international traffic shall have such driving license as may be required by the laws of his State or such as may be issued by any political subdivision thereof having legal authority to issue driving licenses. In the event that no such driving license is required by his State or any political subdivision thereof, a special international driving license such as is specified in Article XIII shall be valid. No operator shall be admitted to international travel who is less than 18 years of age.

ARTICLE VII

Evidence of compliance with the conditions of this Convention shall entitle motor vehicles and motor vehicle operators to circulate on the highways of any of the Contracting States.

ARTICLE VIII

Each State or its political subdivisions shall maintain central bureaus of registration with facilities for the exchange of information with other States as to registration of vehicles and operators.

ARTICLE IX

In addition to the registration plate or plates of the State of origin or of its legally empowered political subdivisions each vehicle shall display an international registration marker indicating the country of origin. This marker shall be in the form of an oval plate not less than 3 inches (8 cm.) wide by 10 inches (26 cm.) long bearing capital Latin letters painted black on a white background.

The distinctive names or letters indicating the several countries shall be the following:

Argentina.....	ARGENTINA
Bolivia.....	BOLIVIA
Brazil.....	BRASIL
Chile.....	CHILE
Colombia.....	COLOMBIA
Costa Rica.....	COSTA RICA
Cuba.....	CUBA
Dominican Republic.....	REP. DOM.
Ecuador.....	ECUADOR
El Salvador.....	SALVADOR
Guatemala.....	GUATEMALA
Haiti.....	HAITI
Honduras.....	HONDURAS
Mexico.....	MEXICO
Nicaragua.....	NICARAGUA
Panama.....	PANAMA
Paraguay.....	PARAGUAY
Peru.....	PERU
United States of America.....	U. S. A.
Uruguay.....	URUGUAY
Venezuela.....	VENEZUELA

This distinctive plate shall be issued by the State or its authorized representatives.

All registration plates shall be plainly visible.

Motor vehicles bearing the international registration markers provided for by the International Convention for the Circulation of Automobiles, 1909, as amended in 1926, shall be recognized as having complied with the foregoing conditions concerning international registration markers.

For admission to international travel, each motor vehicle shall bear in a readily accessible location the name of the manufacturer of the vehicle, the manufacturer's number of the chassis, and the manufacturer's number of the engine.

ARTICLE X

Unless otherwise provided by the laws or regulations of the respective States or subdivisions thereof, the size of vehicles and loads shall be limited to the following:

1. No vehicle shall exceed a total outside width, including any load thereon, of 8 feet (2.44 meters).
2. No vehicle with or without load shall exceed a maximum height of 12 feet, 6 inches (3.80 meters).
3. No vehicle shall exceed an overall length of 35 feet (10.70 meters) and no combination of vehicles coupled together shall exceed a total length of 45 feet (13.75 meters).
4. No vehicle shall carry any load extending more than 3 feet (91 centimeters) beyond the front thereof.
5. No passenger vehicle shall carry any load extending beyond the line of the fenders on the left side nor extending more than 6 inches (15.2 centimeters) beyond the line of fenders on the right side thereof; provided however that in States in which the left hand drive is compulsory the provisions of this paragraph referring to the side of loads shall be reversed.
6. Special permits for vehicles or combinations of vehicles exceeding these limits may be issued by the competent authorities of the States.

ARTICLE XI

Unless the laws and regulations of the respective States or political subdivisions thereof provide otherwise, the following requirements as to equipment shall be indispensable for motor vehicles admitted to international traffic:

1. Every motor vehicle shall have brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle. The brakes shall be capable of stopping the vehicle on a dry, smooth, level road within a distance of 30 feet (9 meters) when travelling at a speed of 20 miles (32 kilometers) per hour.
2. Every motor vehicle shall have a suitable horn or other warning device satisfactory to the regulatory authorities.
3. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle shall be equipped with two head lamps, at the front of and on opposite sides of the vehicle, which shall at night, under normal atmospheric conditions and on a level road, produce light sufficient to render clearly discernible a person not less than 350 feet (107 meters) ahead and shall be capable of operation so as not to project a glaring or dazzling light. Every motorcycle shall have at least one head lamp.
4. Every motor vehicle, and every trailer or semi-trailer which is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles, shall carry at the rear a lamp which exhibits a red light plainly visible at night under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet (152 meters) to the rear

of such vehicle. The registration plate carried on the rear of such vehicle shall under like conditions be so illuminated by a white light as to be read from a distance of 50 feet (15 meters) to the rear of the vehicle.

5. Every motor vehicle shall have a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise.

6. Every motor vehicle which is so constructed or loaded as to obstruct the driver's view to the rear thereof from the operator's position shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least 200 feet (70 meters) to the rear of such vehicle.

7. Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle shall have a windshield wiper in good working order.

ARTICLE XII

A special international automobile certificate, in addition to the registration required by Article V, may be required for each motor vehicle for admission to and circulation in any individual State party to this Convention, if the State so elects. Provision for the issuance of such certificate shall be made by each Contracting State, and such document shall be issued by the State, or by any authorized political subdivision thereof, or by an association duly empowered by such authorities, or by an authorized representative of either the Contracting State or of one of its political subdivisions, having legal authority to issue such certificates. The validity of such special international automobile certificate shall be recognized by all officials having jurisdiction over matters involving legal ownership of the vehicle. The certificate shall be in the form, of the size, and contain the information prescribed in Annex A to this Convention, and shall be valid for one year from date of issuance.

The international automobile certificate issued in accordance with the International Convention of 1926 on Automobile Circulation shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this Article.

ARTICLE XIII

A special international driving license may be required for each operator admitted to circulation in any individual State party to this Convention, if the State so elects. Such a special license shall be required for each operator who does not possess a domestic driving license as required in Article VI. Provision for the issuance of such international driving license shall be made by each Contracting State, and such document shall be issued by the State, or by any authorized political subdivision thereof, or by an association duly empowered by such authorities, or by an authorized representative of either the Contracting State or one of its political subdivisions having legal authority to issue driving licenses. The validity of such special international driving license shall be recognized by all officials having regulatory powers over automotive traffic. The license shall be in the form, of the size, and contain the information prescribed in Annex B to this Convention, and shall be valid for one year from date of issuance.

The international driving license issued in accordance with the International Convention of 1926 shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this Article.

ARTICLE XIV

A general bond guaranteeing payment of customs charges on any motor vehicle to be admitted to international traffic, due and payable within the country in which such charges may be incurred, may be required by any state party to this Convention.

The international customs pass (carnet de passage en douane) of the Association Internationale des Automobile Clubs Reconnus or of the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of this Article for any Contracting State in which a bond is required.

No bond shall be required in any Contracting State if the stay of the foreign vehicle therein does not exceed the period allowed for free stay.

ARTICLE XV

Each State may establish such requirements as it may deem necessary to record the passage into and out of its territory, of vehicles and operators admitted to international traffic. If such records are maintained, they shall include a notation that the vehicle has complied with the provisions of Articles X and XI.

ARTICLE XVI

The hours and routes dedicated to the crossing of frontiers by properly registered vehicles shall be fixed by common consent of the adjacent States and their decisions communicated to the corresponding custom authorities.

ARTICLE XVII

Infractions of this Convention shall be punished in conformity with the laws and regulations of the country in which committed.

Infractions which shall have incurred judicial penalty shall be communicated by the judge or magistrate to the proper authorities, who in turn shall communicate them to the authorities of the State or its political subdivision in which the vehicle and its owner or operator were originally registered.

ARTICLE XVIII

Any vehicle or operator admitted to international traffic under the provisions of the International Convention for the Circulation of Automobiles, 1909, as amended in 1926, and holding the documents required thereunder, will be recognized as fulfilling the requirements of the present Convention.

ARTICLE XIX

The original of the present Convention in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French shall be deposited with the Pan American Union and opened for signature by the American republics. The Convention shall also be opened for the adherence and accession of American States which are not members of the Pan American Union. The Pan American Union shall transmit authentic certified copies to the Governments for the purpose of ratification.

ARTICLE XX

The present Convention shall be ratified by the High Contracting Parties in conformity with their respective constitutional procedures. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited in the archives of the Pan American Union in Washington, which shall notify the signatory Governments of said deposit. Such notification shall be considered as an exchange of ratifications.

ARTICLE XXI

The present Convention shall come into force between the High Contracting Parties in the order in which they deposit their respective ratifications.

ARTICLE XXII

The present Convention shall remain in effect indefinitely, but may be denounced by means of one year's notice given to the Pan American Union, which shall transmit it to the other signatory Governments. After the expiration of this period the Convention shall cease in its effects as regards the party which denounces it, but shall remain in effect for the remaining High Contracting Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, having deposited their full powers found to be in due and proper form, sign this Convention in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French, at the Pan American Union, Washington, D. C., on behalf of their respective Governments and affix thereto their seals on the dates appearing opposite their signatures.

ANEXO A

ANNEX A

ANNEXE A

(Nombre del país)

(Name of country)

(Nome do país)

(Nom du pays)

*Certificado
Internacional para
Automóviles*

*International
Automobile
Certificate*

*Certificado
Internacional para
Automóveis*

*Certificat
International
Pour Automobiles*

(Tamaño del carnet impreso : 14.5 x 8.5 cm.)

(Size of form when printed : 5 3/4" x 3 3/8")

(Tamanho do modelo impresso : 14.5 x 8.5 cm.)

(Grandeur du format imprimé : 14,5 x 8,5 cm.)

La validez de este certificado será reconocida por todas las autoridades con atribuciones para reglamentar el registro de vehículos en los países siguientes, a excepción del país que lo expida:

The validity of this certificate shall be recognized by all officials having regulatory powers over the registration of motor vehicles in the following countries, with the exception of the country in which issued:

A validez deste certificado será reconhecida por todas as autoridades que tenham atribuições para a regulamentação do registro de veículos nos seguintes países, com exceção do país que o expedir:

La validité du présent certificat sera reconnue par toutes les autorités ayant les attributions nécessaires pour l'immatriculation des véhicules automobiles dans les pays suivants, à l'exception du pays dans lequel il est délivré:

Argentina	Honduras
Bolivia	México
Brasil	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panamá
Costa Rica	Paraguay
Cuba	Perú
Chile	República Dominicana
Ecuador	United States
El Salvador	• of America
Guatemala	Uruguay
Haiti	Venezuela

(Ráyense los nombres de los países que aún no hayan ratificado la Convención cuando se expida el certificado).

(Draw lines through names of countries which have not ratified the Convention at time of issue.)

(Risquem-se os nomes dos países que ainda não tenham ratificado a Convenção até o momento da expedição do certificado.)

(Rayer les noms des pays qui n'ont pas encore ratifié la Convention au moment de la délivrance du certificat.)

INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE CERTIFICATE

Issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic signed at Washington, D. C., U. S. A., in 1943.

Issued by.....

At.....

Date.....

Signature (*).....

Number.....

(*) Signature of Authority or signature of Association empowered by the Authority, and "visa" of the latter.

Good for one year from date of issue.

Owner or Holder { Surname.....
Other names:.....
Home address:.....

Class of vehicle:.....

Name of maker of chassis:.....

Type of chassis:.....

Serial number of type or maker's number of chassis:.....

Engine { Number of cylinders:.....
Engine number:.....
Stroke:.....
Bore:.....
Horse power:.....

Body { Type:.....
Color:.....
Number of seats:.....

Weight of vehicle without load (in kilos):.....

Weight of vehicle fully loaded (in kilos) if exceeding 3,500 kilos:.....

Identification marks on plates:.....

.....

VISA DE ENTRADA

ENTRANCE VISA

VISTO DA ENTRADA

VISA D'ENTRÉE

(La visa de entrada debe contener los siguientes datos: país, lugar, fecha, firma y sello de la autoridad que otorga la visa.)

(The entrance visa should contain the following data: country, place, date, signature and seal of the authority granting the visa.)

(O visto de entrada deverá conter os seguintes dados: país, lugar, data, assinatura e selo da autoridade que deu o visto).

(Le visa d'entrée doit contenir les données suivantes: pays, lieu, date, signature et sceau de l'autorité qui accorde le visa.)

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ANEXO B

ANNEX B

ANNEXE B

(Nombre del país)

(Name of country)

(Nome do país)

(Nom du pays)

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PERMISO
INTERNACIONAL
PARA CONDUCIR

INTERNATIONAL
DRIVING
LICENSE

LICENÇA
INTERNACIONAL
PARA GUIAR

PERMIS
INTERNATIONAL
DE CONDUIRE

(Tamaño del carnet impreso, 14.5 x 8.5 cm.)

(Size of form when printed, 5 3/4" x 3 3/8")

(Tamanho do modelo impreso, 14.5 x 8.5 cm.)

(Grandeur du format imprimé, 14,5 x 8,5 cm.)

La validez de este permiso será reconocida por todos los funcionarios con atribuciones para reglamentar el tráfico en los siguientes países, a excepción del país que lo expida.

The validity of this license shall be recognized by all officials having regulatory powers over automotive traffic in the following countries, with the exception of the country in which issued.

A validês desta licença será reconhecida por todos os funcionários que tenham atribuições para regulamentar o tráfico nos seguintes países, com exceção do país em que é expedido.

La validité du présent permis sera reconnue par tous les fonctionnaires ayant les attributions nécessaires pour réglementer la circulation routière dans les pays suivants, à l'exception du pays dans lequel le permis est délivré:

Argentina	Honduras
Bolivia	México
Brasil	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panamá
Costa Rica	Paraguay
Cuba	Perú
Chile	República Dominicana
Ecuador	United States
El Salvador	of America
Guatemala	Uruguay
Haiti	Venezuela

(Ráyense los nombres de los países que aún no hayan ratificado la Convención al momento de expedir el permiso.)

(Draw lines through names of countries which have not ratified the Convention at time of issue.)

(Risquem-se os nomes dos países que ainda não tenham ratificado a Convenção até o momento da expedição da licença.)

(Rayer les noms des pays qui n'ont pas encore ratifié la Convention au moment de la délivrance du permis.)

(Las tres categorías de permisos para conducir — A, B y C — abajo indicadas, permitirán a los Estados, o subdivisiones políticas de los mismos, donde se exijan formalidades especiales a los conductores de vehículos ligeros, pesados o en combinaciones, y a los de motocicletas, que expidan las licencias correspondientes para dichas categorías, o cualquiera de ellas. Se provee un sello especial de autoridad para tales casos.)

(The three categories of driving licenses indicated below — A, B and C — are established in order to permit States or subdivisions thereof which have special requirements differentiating among drivers of light vehicles, heavy vehicles and combinations, and motorcycles, to issue appropriate licenses for each or all of these classes. A separate seal of authority is provided for use in such case or cases.)

(As três categorias de licenças para guiar — A, B e C — abaixo indicadas, permitirão aos Estados, ou subdivisões políticas dos mesmos, onde sejam exigidas condições especiais aos condutores de veículos leves, pesados ou em combinações e aos motociclistas, expedir as licenças correspondentes a cada categoria ou a todas elas. Há um selo especial de autoridade para tais casos.)

(Les trois catégories de permis de conduire indiquées ci-après — A, B et C — sont établies afin de permettre aux Etats, ou à leurs subdivisions politiques, ou il existe des conditions spéciales pour les conducteurs de véhicules légers, lourds ou en combinaison, et pour les motocyclettes, de délivrer les permis correspondants à chacune de ces catégories, ou à toutes. Un sceau spécial des autorités est prévu pour ces cas.)

A	B	C
Automóviles cuyo peso, cargados, no excede de 3,500 kilos.	Automóviles cuyo peso, cargados, excede de 3,500 kilos.	Motocicletas con o sin coche-cillo lateral.
Motor vehicles of which the weight with load does not exceed 3,500 kilos.	Motor vehicles of which the weight with load exceeds 3,500 kilos.	Motorcycles with or without side-car.
Automóveis cujo peso, carregados, não exceda de 3,500 kilos.	Automóveis cujo peso, carregados, exceda de 3,500 kilos.	Motocicletas com ou sem carrinho de lado.
Véhicules automobiles dont le poids total en charge n'exède pas 3,500 kilos.	Véhicules automobiles dont le poids en charge excède 3,500 kilos.	Motocyclettes avec ou sans sidecar.

A	B	C
Sello de Autoridad	: Sello de Autoridad	: Sello de Autoridad
Seal of Authority	: Seal of Authority	: Seal of Authority
Sêlo da Autoridade	: Sêlo da Autoridade	: Sêlo da Autoridade
Sceau de l'autorité	: Sceau de l'autorité	: Sceau de l'autorité

INTERNATIONAL DRIVING LICENSE

Issued in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Regulation of Inter-American Automotive Traffic signed at Washington, D. C., U. S. A., in 1943.

Issued by.....

At.....

Date.....

Signature (*).....

Number.....

(*) Signature of Authority or signature of Association empowered by the Authority, and "visa" of the latter.

Valid for one year from date of issue.

PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE DRIVER

PHOTOGRAPH

Official
seal

Surname.....	1
Other names.....	2
Place of birth.....	3
Date of birth.....	4
Home address.....	5

(Name of country)

REVOCATION

M. (surname and other names).....
authorized as above by the authority of (country).....
..... is deprived of the
right to drive in (country).....
by reason of.....

Place.....

Date.....

(signature)

Seal of
Authority

.....

PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE DRIVER

FOR THE PHOTOGRAPH, SEE ABOVE (PAGE 34)

Surname:..... 1
Other names:..... 2
Place of birth:..... 3
Date of birth:..... 4
Home address:..... 5