RESOLUTION No. 38 ON TRANSPORT FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

[CM(78)23]

The Council of Ministers of Transport meeting in Paris on 12th December 1978,

HAVING EXAMINED the report on the transport of handicapped persons [CM(78)22];

CONSIDERING that the reintegration of handicapped persons in professional and social life is one of the important objectives of developed society;

CONSIDERING that the reintegration of handicapped persons in the occupational and social life of the community very closely depends on whether they are able to move about as required for journeys to and from work or for any other purpose;

CONSIDERING that all public and private initiatives to facilitate the transport of handicapped persons in Member countries should be encouraged;

AWARE that improving transport for handicapped persons implies major financial commitments, particularly as regards the means of transport to be provided for them and the adaptation of rolling stock and facilities in the buildings and places giving access to transport vehicles;

ADOPTS the conclusions of the above-mentioned Report [CM(78)22];

RECOMMENDS the Governments of Member countries to ensure that the responsible authorities and the enterprises and other bodies concerned take suitable action where required, it being important:

-- to pursue the design and introduction of improvements intended to give handicapped persons easiest possible access to existing transport services, including long-distance services;

-- to seek in this connection to make it less burdensome and easier for handicapped persons and old people to use these services by planning appropriate measures regarding access to terminal facilities and vehicles;

-- to make provision to ensure, in case where no special services are available, that all new installations include the facilities necessary for handicapped persons to move about and to gain access to means of transport;

-- to promote, as needed and where feasible, the organisation of specific urban transport facilities for handicapped persons unable to move about unaided;
-- to facilitate the use of private cars and taxis by handicapped persons through a package of appropriate measures;

-- to use the mass media to make the public aware of the problems of handicapped persons, particularly as regards transport;

-- to provide suitable information for handicapped persons regarding the transport facilities available to them;

-- to speed up the work of standardization of rolling stock at international level which is being done in the UIC so that a railway carriage suitable for handicapped persons in wheelchairs may be developed;

**INSTRUCTS** the Committee of Deputies to report back to the Council in due course on action taken as a result of this Resolution.