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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Passive Safety

Forty-eighth session

Geneva, 7–10 December 2010

Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Regulation No. 17 (Strength of seats)

Proposal for Corrigendum 2 to the 08 series of amendments

Submitted by the experts from Belgium and Germany*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from Germany and Belgium in order to introduce prescriptions for side-facing seats in vehicles of category M₃ (Class II, III and B). The text supersedes document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2010/23. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006–2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

Paragraph 2.3.3., amend to read:

“2.3.3. ~~“Side-facing seat” means a seat which, with regard to its alignment with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle, does not meet either of the definitions given in paragraph 2.3.1. or 2.3.2. above~~ **can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the side of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of 90° ($\pm 10^\circ$) with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle;**”

Paragraph 5.1.1., amend to read:

“5.1.1. The installation of side-facing seats shall be prohibited in vehicles of categories M₁, **and** N₁, ~~M₂ (of class III or B) and M₃ (of class III or B).~~”

Paragraph 5.1.3., shall be deleted

Paragraph 13.12., shall be deleted

II. Justification

1. The scope of Regulation No. 17 explicitly mentions in indent (b) that Regulation No. 17 applies only to those seats in vehicles of categories M₂ and M₃ which are not covered by Regulation No. 80.
2. As Regulation No. 80 deals with passenger seats (seats mounted in the passenger compartment of a bus) of vehicles of categories M₂ (Class II, III and B) and M₃ (Class II, III and B), only driver seats in all vehicles and passenger seats in vehicles of categories M₂ and M₃ (Classes I and A) are left to be dealt with by Regulation No. 17. Furthermore the 02 series of amendments to Regulation No. 80 now covers side-facing seats as well.
3. Therefore there is neither a need for banning side-facing seats for such vehicles nor for incorporating the exemption for the fitting of side-facing passenger seats, as stated in the current paragraph 5.1.3.
4. Consequently paragraph 5.1.1. needs to be amended as shown and paragraphs. 5.1.3. and 13.12. are to be deleted.

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