

Fuel Quality Working Group
Initial Position of the United States
GRPE Meeting, June 2008

The United States concurs with the working group that recommendations by GRPE concerning fuel quality may prove valuable to both Contracting Parties and the regulated industries. In that light, the United States puts forth the following position regarding the fuel quality effort within GRPE:

- First, are there compelling reasons that merit changing the 1998 Agreement to give WP29 the authority to develop regulations concerning fuel quality?
- Short of changing the 1998 Agreement, fuel quality recommendations from GRPE might best be limited to informing Contracting Parties of the relationship between fuel quality and emission control technology.
 - This recommendation can take the form of either fuel specification recommendations adopted as part of individual gtrs or as part of a more general document such as a Special Resolution.
- GRPE should give thought to limiting its recommendations to fuel parameters that can poison emission control technology (e.g., sulphur, lead) and/or that can directly influence public health (e.g., lead). GRPE should also refer to efforts done by the United Nation's Environment Programme under the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles.
 - The recommendations should summarize the history of emission limits and corresponding fuel controls in Europe, Japan, the United States, etc.
 - This summary should be limited to those fuel controls deemed necessary to enable the corresponding emission limits.
- GRPE should exercise caution regarding fuel parameters that impact primarily engine performance, such as cetane or octane number.
 - If the consensus among working group members is that GRPE's recommendations should, in fact, speak to such fuel parameters, the recommendations should look to real world (i.e., in-service) fuels in Europe, Japan, and the United States.
 - Again, this summary should be limited to those fuel controls deemed necessary to enable the corresponding emission limits.
- GRPE's recommendations concerning bio-fuels and low-carbon fuels should focus on terminology and what constitutes a bio-fuel or low-carbon fuel.
- GRPE's recommendations should be communicated very clearly as recommendations and not requirements for those countries adopting emission limits on their transportation sector. The recommendations may include information

concerning the probable negative outcomes should the recommendations not be followed.