Submitted by the Chair of the informal group DETA Informal document WP.29-155-131
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Request for decisions by WP.29 on the development of the DETA application

1.   WP.29 directed the DETA group to consider the viability of a database to manage UNECE approvals and allow access to approval information by various users. WP.29 also asked DETA to consider improving the type approval process and to foster world-wide collaboration.

In the context of improving the type approval process a primary driver for this work was the desire in GTB to simplify the current complex lamp marking requirements that result in a mark that is costly for industry to place on a product but is of little value in an enforcement situation.

2.   The DETA group reviewed in its meetings the existing EU ETAES database, noticed a demonstration of a mock-up UNECE database on the ETAES platform, studied other electronic approval systems and considered the concept of a unique product identifier that would give access to copies of all approvals held by the product globally. A try-out of the software has been started recently.

3.   The informal group on DETA recognizes that the EU ETAES application can fulfil all the needs that are expressed for the DETA application. Therefore the informal group considers that the DETA application can be based on the same principles as the ETAES application. <u>WP.29 is requested to approve in its March session the approach of the informal group that the DETA system shall be based on the same application that is used by ETAES in the European Union.</u> For further progress of the development of the DETA application other decisions by WP.29 are needed. It concerns topics like the llegal status, a steering committee, the server (position hardware), the financing, the unique identifier and the implementing stages of the system.

4.   Legal Basis
There is currently no obligation on contracting party Approval Authorities to use electronic communication for circulation of approvals. If the database is adopted and is to be fully effective then there is a need for amendments to the 1958 and 1998 Agreements to require the mandatory use of the database. If it is not used by all approval authorities, then the system has lost its entire value for the simplification of the markings and for enforcement bodies for technical verification of vehicles. The principle could be that the DETA application shall be used where the relevant UN-regulations requires so. <u>The informal group on DETA requests WP.29 to take a decision in its March meeting of 2012 to create such a legal basis in these Agreements which mandates the use of the DETA application where relevant UN regulations require so.</u>

5.   Steering Committee
While the EU ETAES application has been realized by the EU approval authorities in an informal manner the informal group considers that for a democratic system a governing board with members and elected officers is necessary. Such a board under the umbrella of WP.29 will have to take decisions which are needed for the maintenance, financing and improvement of the application.
<u>The informal group on DETA requests WP.29 to take a decision in its March meeting of 2012 to establish such a board as soon as the DETA application becomes operational.</u>

6.   Implementing stages of the system
The DETA application will finally be applied by several users: approval authorities, industry and enforcements bodies like the police or bodies performing periodical inspections. For type approval authorities the application can be used very quickly; for other users the application further developments are needed like applications for providing enforcement bodies with the requested information. <u>The informal</u>

group on DETA requests WP.29 to take a decision in its March meeting of 2012 to agree that the DETA application will be introduced in several stages, to begin with the uploading of type approval documentation by the approval authorities and only as it is required by the relevant UN regulation under the 1958 Agreement. In later stages industry and enforcement bodies will follow.

7.   Financing.

The willingness of the users to pay the initial and annual costs for the DETA system depends on the benefits they expect to have. The benefits vary from user to user. Some expect important benefits while others might not see any benefits. The most ideal situation would be that the UN organisation pays all the cost but the informal group considers also alternatives. It is clear that without financing there will be no DETA system. WP.29 is requested to confirm in its March session of 2012 that the financing of the system is a precondition for the development of the application and that the informal group will have to continue its work on this.

8.   Server

A server is needed for the application of the software. ICTS, UNOG investigated the possibilities for the deployment of the DETA application within the environment of the UN (see DETA-12-05). The informal group prefers having the server, its support and financing within the UN organisation as it results from an initial request from WP.29. The informal group requests WP.29 to support this preference in its March 2012 meeting and to request the secretariat of WP.29 to forward this topic to the hierarchy of the UN.

9.   Unique identifier

Key for access to the information given in the database will be a unique identifier. The number of the identifier can be generated by the software of the system. The unique identifier will be used for all approvals granted to the product. To be recognizable on the product it should be preceded by a symbol. The informal group advices to use the truncated symbol that is used in UN Regulation 48. A unique identifier would look as follows:

⌐UI⌐39886

The informal group requests WP.29 to approve this principle in its March 2012 session for those UN regulations which will require this simplified marking in future.

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