PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE 1971 EUROPEAN AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTING THE 1968 CONVENTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC

Transmitted by the Working Party on General Safety Provisions (GRSG)

Note: At its eighty-second session, GRSG considered proposals received through WP.29 from the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) and contained in document TRANS/WP.1/2001/34 (TRANS/WP.29/815, paras. 26 and 28). The proposal to modify the definitions of mopeds and motor cycles, inserting also new definitions of tricycles and quadricycles had been formulated by a small group of experts that had been established by WP.1.

GRSG adopted the proposed definitions with minor amendments (shown in bold text) and agreed to transmit the proposal for consideration to WP.29. If endorsed, the proposal should be communicated to WP.1 (TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/61, paras. 46 and 47).

The proposed amendments refer to the European Agreement Supplementing the Convention on Road Traffic, done at Geneva on 1 May 1971 (documents E/ECE/813-E/ECE/TRANS/567 and Amend.1 and Amend.2).

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Insert new paragraph 3bis., to read:

"3bis. Ad Article 1 of the Convention (Definitions)

Subparagraph (m)

This subparagraph shall be read as follows:

"(m) "Moped" means any two-wheeled or three-wheeled vehicle with a maximum design speed of not more than 45 km/h and characterised by:

(i) in the case of the two-wheel type, an engine whose cylinder capacity does not exceed 50 cm\(^3\) in the case of the internal combustion type, or maximum continuous rated power is no more than 4 kW in the case of an electric motor.

(ii) in the case of the three-wheel type, an engine whose cylinder capacity does not exceed 50 cm\(^3\) if of the spark (positive) ignition type, or maximum net power output does not exceed 4 kW in the case of other internal combustion engines, or maximum continuous rated power does not exceed 4 kW in the case of an electric motor.

Contracting Parties are free, however, not to regard as mopeds, under their domestic legislation, vehicles which do not have the characteristics of a cycle with respect to their use, in particular the characteristic that they can be propelled by pedals, or whose maximum design speed, whose mass, or certain of whose engine characteristics exceed certain limits. Nothing in this definition shall be construed as preventing Contracting Parties from treating mopeds exactly as cycles in applying the provisions of their domestic legislation regarding road traffic;"

Subparagraph (n)

This subparagraph shall be read as follows:

"(n) "Motor cycle" means any two-wheeled vehicle, with or without a side-car with a maximum design speed of more than 45 km/h or an engine having a cylinder capacity of more than 50 cm\(^3\) if of the internal combustion type, or a maximum continuous rated power of more than 4 kW in the case of an electric motor.

The term "motor cycle" does not include mopeds, although Contracting Parties may, provided they make a declaration to this effect in conformity with Article 54, paragraph 2, of this Convention, treat mopeds as motor cycles for the purposes of the Convention;"
Additional subparagraphs (ag) to (ai), to be inserted at the end of this Article

These additional subparagraphs shall be read as follows:

"(ag) "Motor tricycle" means a vehicle with three symmetrically arranged wheels fitted with an engine having a maximum design speed of more than 45 km/h or a cylinder capacity of more than 50 cm³ if of the internal combustion type or a maximum continuous rated power of more than 4 kW in the case of an electric motor.

(ah) "Light quadricycle" means a vehicle with four wheels whose unladen mass is not more than 350 kg, not including the mass of the batteries in case of electric vehicles, whose maximum design speed is not more than 45 km/h, and

(i) whose engine cylinder capacity does not exceed 50 cm³ for spark (positive) ignition engines, or

(ii) whose maximum net power output does not exceed 4 kW in the case of other internal combustion engines, or

(iii) whose maximum continuous rated power does not exceed 4 kW in the case of an electric motor.

(ai) "Quadricycle" means a vehicle with four wheels, other than a light quadricycle, whose unladen mass is not more than 400 kg (550 kg for vehicles intended for carrying goods), not including the mass of batteries in the case of electric vehicles, and whose maximum net engine power does not exceed 15 kW."