

**Speech by Mr. A.L.Rakhmanov,  
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At the 146<sup>th</sup> session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)**

Dear Mr. Chairman!  
Ladies and Gentlemen!

Thank you for granted possibility of making this speech. It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you at this 146<sup>th</sup> session of the World Forum.

Let me briefly describe a situation with the Russian vehicle market and the measures for providing of safety, undertaken by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which is the federal authority of the Russian Federation in the field of industrial policy and technical regulating.

The Russian vehicle market indicates growth in rapid rates - in 2007 it grew by 35% and composed of 2.7 million of vehicles. Among those 1.1 million vehicles were produced in Russia, and 1.6 million were imported. This makes the Russian market very attractive for vehicle manufacturers.

At the same time, the increasing vehicle fleet in operation requires special attention of the Russian Federation to the questions of technical regulating, especially to the criteria of vehicle safety both produced in its territory, and imported, for the purpose of reducing to the minimum of road accidents and their negative consequences, and also reduction of the pollutant emissions. Therefore the criteria of vehicle active, passive and ecological safety are the objects of rigid regulating with ever more enlarging scope.

The system of mandatory certification is the most effective means of control by the state over production and import of safe for users and environment.

Since 1986 Russia as the lawful successor of the USSR participates in the 1958 Geneva Agreement, and also it participates in the 1998 Global Agreement from the moment of its conclusion. This participation causes the creation in Russia of conditions for applying the international technical regulations, which is the important factor of an increase of vehicle safety.

The obligation of the fulfillment of international technical regulations assumes the need for their transposition into the Russian national legislation. The ECE Regulations are used in the Russian legislation in the form of straight references on them:

- in the applicable Vehicle Certification System, which regulates the procedures of the vehicle certification in the Russian Federation;

- in the technical regulations developed in accordance with the Law “About Technical Regulating”, in particular: in Russian first technical regulation “About the Requirements for the emission of harmful (soiling) substances by the vehicles, released for circulation in the territory of the Russian Federation”, using as the regulatory base the ECE Regulations related to vehicle and engine emissions (Regulations Nos. 24, 49, 83, 96); in the draft technical regulation “About Safety of Wheeled Vehicles”, which uses as the regulatory base the ECE Regulations, and also the global technical regulations.

The number of the ECE Regulations applied by the Russian Federation in the national legislation constantly grows. In particular, in 2007, after the introduction of changes in the Russian Vehicle Certification System, the number of mandatory requirements set by the ECE Regulations has become to more than 70 (the changes in the Vehicle Certification System were introduced at the 144<sup>th</sup> WP.29 session in March this year).

Understanding the significance of the problem of vehicle safety, the Russian Federation actively carries out scientific and technical research in this area. The part of those developments has been already supported by the World Forum and has been realized in the Regulations already adopted and being developed presently, in particular, concerning stability of vehicles transporting dangerous goods, with respect to the strength of truck cabs; related to the methods of evaluation of tyre rolling resistance, which is directed toward the economy of energy resources.

Concluding my speech, I would like to note that the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation confirms its adherence to the ideas of the agreements in the area of responsibility of the World Forum. The Russian Federation is ready to further close collaboration in the sphere of the global agreement of the international regulations with respect to vehicles and highly values the results achieved by World Forum in a matter of increase of safety and improvement in the ecological characteristics of vehicles.

Thank you for your attention!

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