

Requesting support for a new P3 post for WP.29 activities

At the March 2009 session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), Mrs. Eva Molnar, Director of the UNECE Transport Division, informed WP.29 that ITC had supported a new P3 position for the activities related to fuel quality and global warming and transport. See the reproduction of para 3. of the report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1072 of that session. As you may remember Mrs. Molnar invited the WP.29 representatives to support in New York such a post.

3. The Director informed WP.29 that the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) had She reported on the main decisions of ITC affecting the World Forum, **in particular the ITC support for a new P3 post dedicated to market fuel quality standards and to global warming and transport.** She invited the delegates of WP.29 to ensure the support of their Governments to this new post, especially, at the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) (<http://www.un.org/ga/acabq/index.asp>) and at the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in New York (<http://www.un.org/ga/fifth/>).

The support for such request was reminded again by the Director of the Transport Division at the June 2009 session of the World Forum. See below paragraph 3 of the report of that session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1077).

3. The Director informed WP.29 that the request for a new P3 staff member to work on global warming and transport and fuel quality standards had been included in the proposed United Nations budget. She invited the delegates of WP.29 to ensure the support of their Governments for this new post, especially at the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) (<http://www.un.org/ga/acabq/index.asp>) currently meeting in New York, and later at the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly (<http://www.un.org/ga/fifth/>). She underlined that this new position was essential for the development of the activities of the secretariat in servicing the World Forum, and that support from non-European countries was also crucial.

The secretariat have been informed that the consolidated budget of the UN includes the new P3 post for the WP.29 activities, and it is now the moment to support the request for the new post at the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly.

The Secretariat would like to encourage you to contact your missions in New York and to request the members of the Fifth Committee to support the new P3 for the UNECE Transport Division for the development of fuel quality standards and for activities related to global warming and transport. You can find the names of the members of Fifth Committee at: (<http://www.un.org/ga/fifth/>).

Please find in the attachment the list of the Fifth Committee Bureau members as well as the justification for the post.

The support of all the countries, but especially of the developing economies, participating at the World Forum activities is essential, for the final assignment of the new P3 position.

The support on this matter, which can only bring benefits to the work performed by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) allowing its secretariat to better service the World Forum.

Current Members of the Fifth Committee Bureau

<http://www.un.org/ga/fifth/64/bureau.shtml>

The 64th session Bureau of the Fifth Committee:

Chairman

His Excellency, [Mr. Peter MAURER](#) (*Switzerland*)

Vice-Chairmen

Mr. Danilo ROSALES DIAZ (*Nicaragua*)

Mr. Babou SÈNE (*Senegal*)

Ms. Sirithon WAIRATPANIJ (*Thailand*)

Rapporteur

Ms. Yuliana Zhivkova GEORGIEVA (*Bulgaria*)

**Justification for the
Assignment to the UNECE Transport Division of a new P-3 post
Global Warming relevant to Transport and Fuel Standards Specialist**

- Transport is a significant and growing contributor to global climate change. According to some estimates, it is responsible for 13 % of all anthropogenic emissions of GHGs and for almost 25 % of the world's total CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion.¹ Most of these emissions come from road vehicles.
- The UNECE World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) is the only global forum where vehicle regulations are developed. Therefore its responsibility for “greening the transport sector” is huge. Its success however largely depends on the effectiveness of the secretariat that prepares and follows up the meetings, services the relevant international agreements² The Secretariat consists of four professional staff (including the head of the section), whose division of disciplines is by and large as follows: local pollution and energy consumption; noise; brakes and general safety provisions(ESC systems, cruise control, tyres, gear etc.); lighting and passive safety (child restraint systems, safety belts etc.), global warming (CO₂ measurement technologies/ test cycles, other GHGs, fuel quality etc.), ITS (vehicle to vehicle, vehicle to infrastructure etc.). With the very nature of the automotive industry and the growing willingness of governments to regulate the development of the industry in order to mainstream environmental, health, safety and other aspects in the global regulations the secretariat's work-load has been constantly increasing. At the same time the number of staff has remained un-changed. To illustrate the amount of work the secretariat annually services 27 official meetings with around 1500 delegates and lasting 54 days in total, it produces 1126 documents (around 11000 pages in total). In addition, the secretariat provides support to 30 informal groups (that meet several times a year). With this, the secretariat has already reached its capacity and has been able to service the meetings by relying on over-time work of staff. In the past two years the governments decided to additionally include fuel standards into the work program of the World Forum and to accelerate the work on global warming abatement. These additional activities are no longer possible to undertake with the current resources.
- Taking into account the above situation the secretariat is in need of at least one additional professional staff.

¹ OECD (2008), The Challenges of climate change, key messages, International Transport Forum, Ministerial Session, 29 May 2008, p. 2.

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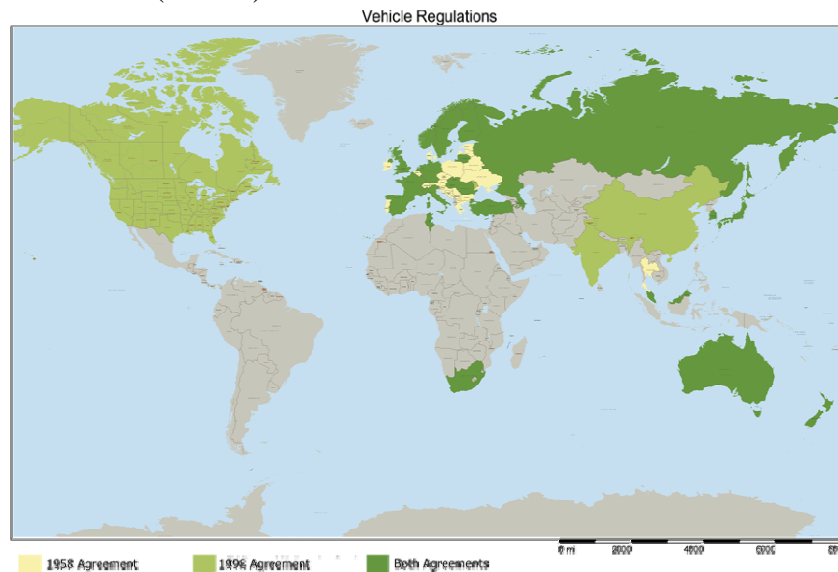
Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and / or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions (1958)

Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of Such Inspections, 1997

Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and / or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, 1998

Detailed technical information about the role of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

- 53 Countries (including the European Union) are Contracting Parties to at least one of the 2 UN Agreements on vehicle regulations (1958 and 1998 Agreements) and apply the vehicle regulations adopted by the World Forum (WP.29).



Geographical extension of the UN 1958 and 1998 Agreements on construction of vehicles administered by the WP.29

- These countries, representing the 5 Continents (almost all the European countries, USA, Canada, Japan, China, India, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, ...), manufacture more than the 80% of the worldwide vehicle production.
- Other countries (Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, the Community of the Arab Gulf Countries, Egypt, the Southern African Developing Community (SADC) ...) are either in the process of acceding to the UN 1958 and 1998 Agreements or have showed interest in acceding to them. Some of them participate, as observers, in the World Forum.
- The political recognition and technical expertise of the World Forum WP.29 is demonstrated by :
 - The EU decision to replace its vehicle directives by reference to the UNECE regulations developed and adopted by the World Forum (WP.29)
 - The OECD International Transport Forum (ITF) Ministerial Session (May 2008) on “The Challenge of Climate Change”, was the first global meeting of transport ministers that focused on energy and climate change challenges relevant to the transport sector. ITF stated that Climate change mitigation and adaptation activities in the transport sector focus on different means of CO₂ abatement: (a) innovative engine technologies to increase fuel efficiency; (b) use of sustainable biofuels; (c) improved transport infrastructure, including inter-modal transport and logistics to avoid road congestion; (d) dissemination of consumer information on eco-driving; and (e) implementation of legal instruments. In their key messages, **transport ministers urged the UNECE World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) to “accelerate the work to develop common methodologies, test cycles and measurement methods for vehicles” [ibid. p. 5], including CO₂ emissions.**

- The Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport (MEET), held in Tokyo (Japan) on 15 and 16 January 2009, in which the Ministers ³ responsible for environment and energy in the transport sector reiterated the ITF key messages and **welcomed the ongoing efforts of the UNECE's World Forum WP.29 for realizing low carbon and low pollution transport system. MEET encouraged countries to strengthen international cooperation to develop and harmonize procedures for testing exhaust emissions** and to promote the production and use of **environmentally friendly vehicles (EFV)** as well as **clean fuels**, and to promote public transport **through the UNECE World Forum.**
- The World Forum demonstrated in 2007 the close link between the market fuel quality and the emissions of pollutants from motor vehicles. Further reduction of emissions required that cleaner fuel be available to consumers. The lack of harmonized fuel quality standards was seen to hamper the development of the new vehicle technologies. Supported by UNEP and the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA), the World Forum is committed to developing a necessary standard on market fuel quality, thus enabling vehicles to use fuels that minimize vehicle emission levels. **MEET have urged the World Forum to develop the necessary uniform standards of market fuel quality.**
- The World Forum WP.29 has already established, in the framework of the 1958 and 1998 Agreements, a large number on measures for climate change mitigation and continues to work on new requirements to improve fuel efficiency through new engine and vehicle technologies. In November 2008, the World Forum noted that a possible strategy for the automotive sector to contribute to the abatement of emissions was to pursue: (a) improved energy efficiency and the use of sustainable biofuels as a short-term objective (2015); (b) the development and introduction into the market of plug-in hybrid vehicles as a mid-term objective (2015–2025); and (c) the development and introduction into the market of electric vehicles as a long-term objective (2025–2040). **This strategy would shift the automotive sector from the use of fossil energy to the use of hydrogen and electric energy.**
- With regard to the **reduction of the CO₂ emissions**, it is called for an **integrated approach**, taking into account measures for the existing fleet of vehicle, such as **eco-driving and better traffic management system** through Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). The UNECE shall play a proactive role in the coordination of this work together with governments and all sector stakeholders to foster the development of intelligent transport systems, its implementation in all transport modes and infrastructures.

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³ Ministers and Relevant Representatives from: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Canada; France; Germany; India; Indonesia; Italy; Japan; Republic of Korea; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Philippines; Russian Federation; Singapore; Thailand; United Kingdom; United States; Vietnam, and the European Commission