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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations****Working Party on Passive Safety****Fifty-third session**

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Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Regulation No. 17 (Strength of seats)**Proposal for Supplement 2 to the 08 series of amendments****Submitted by the expert from Germany ***

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Germany proposing new provisions for folding seats. It is based on a document without a symbol (GRSP-52-30-Rev.1) distributed during the fifty-second session of the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP) (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/52, para. 27). The modifications to the text of the UN Regulation are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106 and ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

Paragraphs 2.9., amend to read:

"2.9. "Folding seat" means ~~an auxiliary seat~~ **normally folded, which can be easily operated** ~~intended for occasional use and normally folded by an occupant.~~"

Paragraphs 5.2.1., amend to read:

"5.2.1. Every adjustment and displacement system provided shall incorporate a locking system, which shall operate automatically.

Locking systems for armrests or other comfort devices are not necessary unless the presence of such devices will cause additional risk of injury to the occupants of a vehicle in the event of a collision.

Folding seats shall lock automatically in the position of use by occupants."

Paragraph 5.3.4., amend to read:

"5.3.4. All seats which can be tipped forward or have fold-on backs **and folding seats must shall** lock automatically in the ~~normal~~ **position of use by occupants.**

These requirements does not apply to **folding** seats fitted in ~~the~~ wheelchair spaces **or areas for standing passengers** of vehicles of category M₂ or M₃ of class I, II or A **and folding seat(s) fitted in the access passages of vehicles of category M₂ or M₃.**"

Insert a new paragraph 6.1.4., to read:

"6.1.4. **Folding seats shall be tested in the position of use by occupants.**"

II. Justification

1. The former 07 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 17 explicitly mentioned under the scope in paragraph 1 that the requirements of the UN Regulation do not apply to folding seats. With the introduction of the 08 series of amendments, this exemption was cancelled and as a consequence, folding seats shall comply with the requirements of UN Regulation No. 17.

2. This proposal introduces modifications to the present text of UN Regulation No. 17 to introduce functional and test requirements for folding seats.