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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
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Use of daytime running lamps

Note by the secretariat

Before envisaging the possibility of defining a common European approach to the question of the use of daytime running lamps in traffic, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, WP.1, had considered at its thirty-fifth session (3-6 October 2000) that information was first needed on domestic regulations in force and on country experience in that regard.

A questionnaire (TRANS/WP.1/2001/39) prepared by the delegation of Switzerland in conjunction with the secretariat was sent to UN/ECE member States during the summer of 2001. The secretariat presented the results of the replies received (at that time 28) in the form of tables (*informal session documents 4, 4 bis and 4 ter*) at the thirty-seventh session of WP.1, and informed the Working Party of ongoing developments in the European Union (cf. in particular the Communication of 11 July 2001 adopted by the European Commission (COM(2001)389 final) on the commitment by the automobile industry to increasing pedestrian protection, which included daytime running lamps among the measures envisaged.).

Following this presentation, WP.1 requested the secretariat to convert the aforementioned informal documents into formal documents and decided to reconsider the matter at its next session in the light of the latest developments in the automobile industry and the European Union.

This is the purpose of annexes 1, 2 and 3 below, which incorporate the informal documents, although their contents have been revised so as to include the replies to the questionnaire recently sent in by member States. The total number of replies received is now 33. These results show that just over one-third of the countries - from northern Europe for the most part - which gave an opinion have made it mandatory for light vehicles to use passing lamps or daytime running lamps permanently during the day. Currently, headlamps are not automatically switched on in any country. Eighteen countries, or more than half, are in favour of a UN/ECE initiative for a regulation introducing daytime running lamps (mainly passing lamps) for all vehicles with four or more wheels; of these countries, 11 would like a permanent obligation for the driver to be established and 3 a seasonal obligation. Four countries expressed a preference for a regulation introducing automatic switching-on of headlamps.

Where Community developments are concerned, following the aforementioned Communication from the European Commission of 11 July 2001, the Council meeting on "Internal market, consumer affairs and tourism" adopted conclusions on 26 November 2001, which can be found in document TRANS/WP.1/2002/14, pointing out that the permanent use of daytime running lamps requires preliminary harmonization of the technical procedures and noting that the Council has not yet taken a decision on aspects of road safety or energy consumption.

Annex 1 (English only)
Summary table of replies to the questionnaire on Daytime Lamps

COUNTRY POSITIONS

The numbers in brackets correspond to the numbers of questions in the questionnaire

COUNTRY	Existing regulation on daytime running lamps (1)			Form by which it was introduced (3)						In favour of a UNECE Regulation (9)			Form to give to this Regulation (10)		Envisaged national measure (11)(12)			
	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver			Automatic use			All vehicles ≥ 4 wheels	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver	Automatic use	Rule for the driver			Automatic use
				Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle						Type of vehicle	Type of lamps	Type of rule	
Andorra	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation (06/99)	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Obligation	-	All 4 wheel vehicle	Passing lamps	Permanent Obligation	-
Armenia	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation (1987)	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	-	-	Recommendation	-	No	No	No	No
Belarus	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Seasonal Obligation	-	No	No	No	No
Denmark	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Perm. Obligation (10/90)	Perm. Obligation (10/90)	Perm. Obligation (10/90)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Estonia	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Perm. Obligation	Perm. Obligation	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Finland	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Perm. Obligation whole year (1982)	Perm. Obligation whole year (1982)	Perm. Obligation whole year (1982)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
France	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation (1980)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Annex 1 (continued)

COUNTRY	Existing regulation on daytime running lamps (1)			Form by which it was introduced (3)						In favour of a UNECE Regulation (9)			Form to give to this Regulation (10)		Envisaged national measure (11)(12)			
	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver			Automatic use			All vehicles ≥ 4 wheels	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver	Automatic use	Rule for the driver			Automatic use
				Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle						Type of vehicle	Type of lamps	Type of rule	
Germany	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No	-	-	No	No	No	Yes
Hungary	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Perm. Obligation (07/84)	Perm. Obligation (1993)	Perm. Obligation (1993)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/Running lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Will support EU initiative	-	-	-	-	-	-	On a voluntary basis	-
Kazakhstan	Passing lamps	-	-	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No	No
Latvia	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Perm. Obligation whole year (04/94)	Perm. Obligation whole year (04/94)	Perm. Obligation whole year (04/94)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/Running lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Liechtenstein	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	Running lamps	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Running lamps for all vehicle ≥ 4 wheels
Lithuania	Passing lamps	No	Passing lamps	Perm. Obligation	-	Seas. Obligation (1/9-7/9; 1/11-1/3)	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Seasonal Obligation (1/9-1/4)	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps/Running lamps	-	-	-	Yes	No	No	No	No
Malta	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	Running lamps	-	-	Recommendation	-	No	No	No	No

Annex 1 (continued)

COUNTRY	Existing regulation on daytime running lamps (1)			Form by which it was introduced (3)						In favour of a UNECE Regulation (9)			Form to give to this Regulation (10)		Envisaged national measure (11)(12)			
	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver			Automatic use			All vehicles ≥ 4 wheels	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver	Automatic use	Rule for the driver			Automatic use
				Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle						Type of vehicle	Type of lamps	Type of rule	
Netherlands	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	Running lamps	-	-	-	Yes	Undecided	Undecided	Undecided	Undecided
Norway	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps/ Fog lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps/ Fog lamps	Perm. Obligation (1978)	Perm. Obligation (1988)	Perm. Obligation (1988)	-	(Until 1994) Passing lamps/ Running lamps/ Fog lamps	(Until 1994) Passing lamps/ Running lamps/ Fog lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps/ Others	-	-	Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	Obligation (1991)	Seas. 1/10-28/02 Obligation (1991)	Seas. 1/10-28/02 Obligation (1991)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/ Running lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	Yes (PL/RL)	All categories	Yes (PL or RL)	Permanent Obligation (end 2003)	Yes PL/RL (end 2006)
Portugal	Passing lamps	-	Passing lamps (Dangerous goods)	Perm. Obligation	-	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	No	No	No	-	-	No	No	No	No
Romania	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps/ Fog lamps	-	-	Recommendation	-	All categories	-	Recommendation	-
Russian Federation	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	No	No	No	-	-	No	No	No	No
Slovak Republic	Passing lamps	No	No	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Seasonal Obligation (15/11-31/03)	-	No	No	No	No

Annex 1 (continued)

COUNTRY	Existing regulation on daytime running lamps (1)			Form by which it was introduced (3)						In favour of a UNECE Regulation (9)			Form to give to this Regulation (10)		Envisaged national measure (11)(12)			
	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver			Automatic use			All vehicles ≥ 4 wheels	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver	Automatic use	Rule for the driver			Automatic use
				Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle						Type of vehicle	Type of lamps	Type of rule	
Slovenia	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Perm. Obligation (1998)	Perm. Obligation (1998)	Perm. Obligation (1998)	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	Passing lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Perm. Obligation (1990)	Obligation (only in certain circumstances)	Obligation (only in certain circumstances)	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Obligation except in built-up areas	-	All categories (depends on EU)	-	-	-
Sweden	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Passing lamps/Running lamps	Perm. Obligation (1997)	Perm. Obligation (1997)	Perm. Obligation (1997)	-	-	-	Passing lamps/Running lamps/Fog lamps	-	-	Permanent Obligation	-	-	-	-	-
Switzerland	Passing lamps	No	No	Recommendation (1977)	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps/Special running lamps	-	-	-	Yes	All categories (2002)	-	Recommendation	Yes If decided by EU
Tajikistan	Passing lamps/Others	Passing lamps/Others	Passing lamps/Others	Perm. Obligation	Perm. Obligation (only in certain circumstances)	Perm. Obligation (only in certain circumstances)	-	-	-	Yes, but only in certain circumstances	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Passing lamps	Passing lamps (<i>Experimentally</i>)	Passing lamps (<i>Experimentally</i>)	Perm. Obligation	-	-	-	-	-	Passing lamps	-	-	Obligation	-	All 4 wheel vehicles	Passing lamps	Obligation	-
Turkey	Running lamps (<i>Experimentally</i>)	Running lamps (<i>Experimentally</i>)	Running lamps (<i>Experimentally</i>)	Recommendation	Recommendation	Recommendation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	All categories	Running lamps	Permanent Obligation	-

Annex 1 (continued)

COUNTRY	Existing regulation on daytime running lamps (1)			Form by which it was introduced (3)						In favour of a UNECE Regulation (9)			Form to give to this Regulation (10)		Envisaged national measure (11)(12)			
	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver			Automatic use			All vehicles ≥ 4 wheels	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Rule addressed to the driver	Automatic use	Rule for the driver			Automatic use
				Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle	Motorcycles	Light vehicle	Heavy vehicle						Type of vehicle	Type of lamps	Type of rule	
Turkmenistan	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Perm. Obligation	Perm. Obligation (in certain circumstances)	Perm. Obligation (in certain circumstances)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	All 4 wheel vehicles	Passing lamps	Obligation	-
United Kingdom	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	Awaiting a firm decision	-	-	-	-	Under consideration	Under consideration	Under consideration	-
Uzbekistan	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Passing lamps	Obligation	Obligation (in certain circumstances)	Obligation (in certain circumstances)	-	-	-	-	-	Sidelights	Permanent Recommendation	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL (33 replies)	26 PL 8 RL (1) 5 No 1 (-)	14 PL 8 RL (1) 15 No 3 (-)	16 PL 8 RL (1) 14 No 2 (-)	25 Ob 2 Rec 6 (-)	12 Ob 1 Rec 1 Seas 19 (-)	14 Ob (2 Seas) 1 Rec 17 (-)	33 (-)	32 (-) 1 (PL/RL/FL until 1994)	32 (-) 1 (PL/RL/FL until 1994)	18 PL 10 RL (3) 3 Un 3 No 6 (-)	30 (-); No	29 (-) 3 No Sidelights	14 Ob (3 Seas) 4 Rec 14 (-)	28 (-) 4 Yes (PL/RL)	14 (-) 9 No 2 Un 8 Yes (5 all cat., 3 all 4 wheels)	4 PL 2 RL 17 (-) 9 No 2 Un	5 Ob 2 Rec 1Vb 14 (-) 9 No 2 Un	4 Yes 8 No 1 Un 20 (-)

PL = Passing lamps
 RL = Running lamps (number in brackets indicates that only RL are mentioned)
 Ob = Obligation
 Rec = Recommendation
 Vb = Voluntary basis

Seas = Seasonal
 Un = Undecided/undefined
 FL = Fog lamps
 (-) = No answer or not applicable

Annex 2 (continued)

COUNTRY	General effects (4)			Specific effects (5)				Other effects (6)
	+ Positive	= non-existent	unknown	Pedestrians	Cyclists	2 wheels	4 wheels and more	
Luxembourg	+			+	+	+	+	unknown
Malta (<i>No answer</i>)								
Netherlands (<i>No answer</i>)								
Norway	+ (6-7% less)			+ (15% less)	+ (10% less)	+ (10% less)	+ (9% less)	1-2% increase in fuel consumption
Poland	+							No
Portugal				unknown				No
Romania (<i>No answer</i>)								
Russian Federation			unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
Slovak Republic			unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
Slovenia			unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
Spain			unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	No
Sweden	+			+	+	+	+	Some effects on fuel consumption
Switzerland	+							
Tajikistan	+ (unknown)			+	+	+		No
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia			unknown	unknown	+		unknown	
Turkey			unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
Turkmenistan	+			=	+	+	+	unknown

Annex 2 (continued)

COUNTRY	General effects (4)			Specific effects (5)				Other effects (6)
	+ Positive	= non- existent	unknown	Pedestrians	Cyclists	2 wheels	4 wheels and more	
United Kingdom <i>(No answer)</i>								
Uzbekistan	+							unknown
TOTAL (33 countries but 28 replies) <i>(5 no answer at all)</i>	13 positive responses	1 =	13 unknown 5 <i>no answer</i>	7 + 14 unknown 1 negative 1 = 10 <i>no answer</i>	8 + 12 unknown 11 <i>no answer</i>	11 + 10 unknown 1 = 1 negative 10 <i>no answer</i>	9 + 12 unknown 12 <i>no answer</i>	16 unknown 5 effects on fuel consumption 4 No 8 <i>no answer</i>

Annex 3 (English only)

**Summary table of replies to the questionnaire on Daytime Lamps
STUDIES**

The numbers in brackets correspond to the numbers of questions in the questionnaire

COUNTRY	Special scientific study (7)			Use of other studies (8)
	Before regulation	In the context of a subsequent evaluation	Without being followed by regulatory measures	
Andorra	No	No	No	No
Armenia	No	No	No	No
Belarus	No			No
Denmark		<i>Yes</i>		Yes (Research from Nordic countries)
Estonia	No	No	No	No
Finland	<i>Yes</i>	No	No	No
France	No	No	No	No
Germany	No	No	<i>Yes</i>	Yes (SWOV)
Hungary	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>		
Ireland	Yes (to come)			
Kazakhstan	No	No	No	No
Latvia	No	No	No	Yes (Safety Handbook of Nordic Council of Ministers)
Liechtenstein	No	No	No	No
Lithuania			No	No
Luxembourg	No	No		No

Annex 3 (continued)

COUNTRY	Special scientific study (7)			Use of other studies (8)
	Before regulation	In the context of a subsequent evaluation	Without being followed by regulatory measures	
Malta	No	No	No	No
Netherlands	No	No	Yes (SWOV)	
Norway		<i>Yes</i>		
Poland				
Portugal	No	No	No	Yes (presented to ECMT)
Romania <i>(no answer)</i>				
Russian Federation	No	No	No	No
Slovak Republic	No	No	No	No
Slovenia	No	No	No	No
Spain	No	No	No	No
Sweden	No	<i>Yes</i>	No	Yes (Finland-USA)
Switzerland	No	No	No	No
Tajikistan	No	No	No	No
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	No	No		No
Turkey	No	No	No	No

Annex 3 (continued)

COUNTRY	Special scientific study (7)			Use of other studies (8)
	Before regulation	In the context of a subsequent evaluation	Without being followed by regulatory measures	
Turkmenistan	No	No	No	No
United Kingdom	No	No	No	Yes (SWOV)
Uzbekistan	No	No	No	No
TOTAL (33 replies)	25 No 3 Yes <i>5 no answer</i>	24 No 4 Yes <i>5 no answer</i>	22 No 2 Yes <i>9 no answer</i>	21 No 6 Yes <i>6 no answer</i>