



UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 161 – 27 February-3 March 2006

Malaysia accedes to UNECE Agreements on Vehicle Regulations

On 3 February 2006, Malaysia communicated to the United Nations Secretary-General its accession to the 1958 and 1998 Agreements. These two accessions bring the number of Parties to the 1958 Agreement to 45 and the number of Parties to the 1998 Agreement to 26. These accessions also underline the worldwide recognition of the role of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), the body administering both Agreements.

Uniform technical prescriptions

In acceding to the 1958 Agreement, Malaysia joins the vast majority of European countries, including the European Community, as well as non-European countries such as Japan, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea. Malaysia will be identified with the E-52 UNECE symbol when granting type approvals under the 1958 Agreement.

The 1958 Agreement provides the legal framework for the development of uniform technical prescriptions for vehicles and their components, with the aim of increasing active and passive safety of motor vehicles, reducing their emissions and improving their anti-theft performance. The 123 Regulations so far developed under the 1958 Agreement are constantly updated, incorporating new technologies to make vehicles safer and more environmentally sound.

Global scope

The 1998 Agreement provides the legal framework for the development of global technical regulations for vehicles and their

components, with the aim of increasing their active and passive safety, reducing their emissions. Contracting



17 European Countries, the European Community as well as Canada, Japan, New Zealand, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, South Africa and the United States of America. Until now, two global technical regulations have been adopted. Other global technical

regulations are being developed by WP.29 on issues like pedestrian safety, head restraint systems, installation of lighting and light-signalling devices, tyres, controls and displays, heavy duty vehicle emissions, on-board diagnostic for heavy-duty vehicles and hydrogen and fuel cells vehicles. ❖

For more information contact José Capel Ferrer (jose.capel.ferrer@unece.org) or Juan Ramos García (juan.ramos.garcia@unece.org).