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Press Release ECE/TRANS/06/P05  
Geneva, 15 June 2006

## **Lithuania joins the UNECE Agreement on global vehicle regulations**

On 25 July Lithuania will become a Contracting Party to the 1998 Agreement on Global Vehicle Regulations.

This will bring the total number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement to 28. At present, Contracting Parties include the USA, Canada, the European Community, Russian Federation, Japan, China, Republic of Korea, India, Malaysia, South Africa, New Zealand and many other European States.

The 1998 Agreement is 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 and improving their security (anti-theft) performance.

The World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) is the body that administers the 1998 Agreement. To date, two global technical regulations have been adopted in the framework of the 1998 Agreement. They address door locks and door retention components and the measurement procedure for emissions and fuel consumption of motorcycles.

WP.29 is currently developing global technical regulations on other vehicle regulatory issues, including the measurement procedure of emissions of heavy-duty vehicles, on-board diagnostic of emissions of heavy-duty vehicles, motorcycle brakes, pedestrian safety and hydrogen and fuel-cell vehicles. It is expected that the third global technical regulation will be adopted in November this year.

For more information, please contact:

José Capel Ferrer, Director, or  
Juan Ramos García, Chief, Technology Section  
UNECE Transport Division  
Palais des Nations  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Phone: +41 (0) 22 917 2400 / 917 1998

Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 0039

E-mail: [jose.capel.ferrer@unece.org](mailto:jose.capel.ferrer@unece.org)

[juan.ramos.garcia@unece.org](mailto:juan.ramos.garcia@unece.org)