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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

Working Party on Noise (GRB)

REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON NOISE (GRB)  
ON ITS THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

(19 and 20 September 2002)

### ATTENDANCE

1. GRB held its thirty-seventh session on 19 and 20 September 2002, under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. Löffelholz (Germany). Experts from the following countries participated in the work, following Rule 1(a) of the Rules of Procedure of WP.29 (TRANS/WP.29/690): Czech Republic; France; Germany; Hungary; Italy; Japan; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; United Kingdom; United States of America and Yugoslavia. A representative of the European Commission (EC) participated. Experts from the following non-governmental organizations took part in the session: International Organization for Standardization (ISO); International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA); International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA); European Tyre and Rim Technical Organization (ETRTO).

2. The documents without a symbol distributed during the session are listed in annex 1 to this report.

PROPOSED NEW DRAFT REGULATION CONCERNING THE TYRE ROLLING SOUND EMISSION

Documentation: TRANS/WP.29/2002/7/Rev.1.

3. The secretariat informed GRB that the above document, currently under consideration by WP.29, is the consolidated text of TRANS/WP.29/2002/7 and Add.1, as requested by the European Commission.

4. The expert from the European Commission confirmed that the consideration of the proposal for the draft Regulation, contained in this document, was still in progress within the European Union.

AMENDMENTS TO ECE REGULATIONS

- (a) Regulation No. 51 - development  
(Noise of M and N categories of vehicles)

Documentation: TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2001/2/Rev.1; TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2001/4; TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2001/5; TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2001/5/Add.1; TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2001/6; TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4; informal documents Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 of annex 1 to this report.

5. GRB agreed to resume its consideration of the consolidated document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 prepared by Germany and ISO in order to introduce into the Regulation provisions for a new test method of vehicles with regard to their sound emissions. Following the suggestion of the Chairman, the expert from Germany gave a short introduction of the document.

6. Recalling informal document No. 6 of the thirty-fifth GRB session and informal document No. 2 of the thirty-sixth GRB session, the expert from Japan gave a presentation (informal document No. 1) of additional results of the study on pass-by noise testing methods incorporating urban driving conditions. The additional information included data on category N2 vehicles and on a vehicle using compressed natural gas (CNG) in their propulsions system. He concluded that the new test method proposed in TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 showed a good correlation even for those vehicles. GRB agreed with his conclusion and acknowledged the research work done by Japan.

7. The expert from the Netherlands proposed an amendment to paragraph 2.2.2. of annex 3 to document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 (informal document No. 2). Furthermore he stated the need to introduce into the provisions of annex 3 an additional method of testing for sound measurement of vehicles at low speed operation.

8. The expert from the Russian Federation introduced informal document No. 3 and the expert from Italy informal document No. 7, both documents proposing a number of amendments to TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4.

9. The expert from ISO reported on the status of development of an advanced urban driving procedure (informal documents Nos. 6 and 8) of the working group ISO/TC43/SC1/WG42.

10. GRB agreed with the Chairman's suggestion to proceed to the first reading of document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4.

11. With regard to the general test specifications and the measurement methods, the Chairman supported the suggestion by the expert from the United States of America to consider the introduction into the Regulation of provisions concerning an endurance test for vehicles in order to verify the

durability of its noise reduction system (analogue to the type V durability test of anti-pollution devices in Regulation No. 83).

12. The expert from the Netherlands proposed to introduce into the table of sound level limits (paragraph 6.2.2.) low frequency limits. Furthermore he suggested to increase in paragraph 1.1.4. the tolerance for the specification limits of measurement instruments. The expert from ISO stated that the tolerance of  $\pm 2$  per cent (as mentioned in the proposal) was state of the art for measurement equipments.

13. GRB agreed with the statement made by the expert from the United Kingdom to fix in a first step the new measurement method, appropriate to the need of reduction of the sound emissions of vehicle, and to discuss the limit values in a later step.

14. The expert from Italy suggested to review in TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 the provisions on the vehicles categories according to those proposed in informal document No. 7.

15. Following the discussion, GRB agreed on the text reproduced in informal document No. 10 of annex 1 to this report.

16. Having noted that the session for February 2003 was cancelled (para. 30 below) and that, consequently, the next GRB session would be held only in October 2003, GRB stressed the need to continue, in the meantime, the work on the draft amendments to Regulation No. 51. GRB strongly supported the Chairman's suggestion to establish an informal group in order to progress further in the development of the improved vehicle test method.

17. The experts from Germany and from ISO proposed the Terms of Reference for the informal group. The main goal of the work would be to revise the draft amendments to Regulation No. 51 - Noise emissions of M and N categories of vehicles, proposed by Germany and ISO (TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4). The Terms of Reference adopted by GRB are reproduced in annex 2 to this report.

18. Mr. Ch. Theis (Germany) was elected Chairman of the informal group and Mr. H.-M. Gerhard (OICA) volunteered to take over the function of the Secretary of the group. Mr. Theis stated his intention to organize the first meeting of three intended meetings of the informal group in Bonn (Germany) at the beginning of next year.

19. The Chairman stated that he would request WP.29's consent at the November 2002 session about the establishment of the above-mentioned informal group. He thanked Mr. Theis and Mr. Gerhard for their commitment and wished the new informal group success in their future work.

20. The secretariat agreed to prepare a document with the amendments that GRB agreed during the session and to post it as informal document No. 10 of this session on the WP.29/GRB website. It should become the basic working document for the work of the informal group (paras. 15 to 19 above).

21. The Chairman invited GRB to participate at the informal group meetings and to submit in due time to the secretariat of the informal group all their concerns and proposals relating to TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 for consideration. He suggested that the group should have, if necessary, its third meeting before the thirty-eighth session of GRB in October 2003 (para. 32 below). He concluded that GRB would resume discussion at the next GRB session in October 2003 on the basis of the work results of the informal group.

(b) Regulation No. 59 (Replacement silencing systems)

Documentation: TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/1/Rev.1; informal document No. 4 of annex 1 to this report.

22. The expert from the Russian Federation tabled informal document No. 4 in order to amend paragraph 3.3.3. As no common agreement on that proposal could be reached, the Chairman suggested to resume the discussion on that paragraph at the next GRB session. For that purpose, the secretariat was requested to distribute informal document No. 4 with an official symbol (note by the secretariat: see document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2003/1).

23. Furthermore, GRB agreed on the following amendments to document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/1/Rev.1:

The inserted new paragraph 3.4., should be deleted.

Paragraph 4.3.1.2., amend to read:

"4.3.1.2. Installation instructions."

Paragraph 4.3.2., amend to read:

"4.3.2. ....  
(c) in the product catalogue distributed to point of sale by the manufacturer of replacement silencing systems."

Paragraph 6.1.2., amend to read:

"6.1.2. The replacement silencing system shall be installed such that it is free of leaks. In particular, it shall be checked that the complete silencing system will not noticeably leak after installation."

24. GRB agreed to resume its consideration of TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/1/Rev.1 together with the proposal by the Russian Federation at its next session.

#### EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS ON NOISE LEVELS

Documentation: Informal document No. 9 of annex 1 to this report.

25. The expert from the Netherlands informed GRB about the results of a study on peak noise during the evening and night (see informal document No. 9).

#### FUTURE CANDIDATE GLOBAL TECHNICAL REGULATIONS (gtr)

26. With regard to the programme of work of the 1998 Global Agreement, the secretariat recalled that the programme of work had been adopted by the Executive Committee AC.3 at its March 2002 session (TRANS/WP.29/841, para. 109 and annex 4; TRANS/WP.29/861, para. 116). GRB was informed about the decision of AC.3 to remove from the work programme of GRB the project of a global technical regulation (gtr) on tyre noise.

27. Furthermore, the Secretary informed GRB that AC.3 had adopted at its June 2002 session (TRANS/WP.29/861, paras. 118 and 119) the Guidelines Regarding Proposing and Developing Global Technical Regulations (TRANS/WP.29/882) as well as the Format of Global Technical Regulations (TRANS/WP.29/883). Both documents can be consulted or downloaded under "Final Documents - 800 Series" from the WP.29 website:  
<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29age.html>

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

28. Following the announcement by the secretariat on Thursday morning, 19 September 2002, and in compliance with Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure of WP.29 (TRANS/WP.29/690), GRB called the election of officers on Friday morning. Mr. Dietmar Meyer (Germany) was elected Chairman for the session scheduled for the year 2003. Mr. Meyer thanked the group for its confidence.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Tribute to Mr. Herbert Löffelholz

29. GRB noted that Mr. Löffelholz had taken his merited retirement, terminating also the GRB Chairmanship which he had assured for the last seven years. In his work and in his representing of Germany at WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies, he had contributed considerably to enhancing vehicle noise reduction. Speaking on behalf of GRB, the Secretary thanked Mr. H. Löffelholz for his excellent Chairmanship and wished him a long and happy retirement. GRB expressed deep appreciation to Mr. Löffelholz with long applause.

(b) Calendar of sessions for 2003

30. With regard to the calendar of sessions of WP.29 and of its subsidiary bodies for 2003, the Secretary informed GRB of the decision of WP.29 (TRANS/WP.29/861, para. 22) to cancel the session scheduled for February 2003, and to distribute the six session half-days with interpretation to GRRF (1/2 day), GRSG (1/2 day) and GRSP (four 1/2 days). The agreed provisional calendar of sessions for 2003 is reproduced in annex 2 to TRANS/WP.29/861.

(c) Comments to draft Regulation concerning the tyre rolling sound emission

31. The expert from the Netherlands introduced informal document No. 5 on the measurement results of some passenger car types.

AGENDA FOR THE NEXT SESSION

32. For its thirty-eighth session, scheduled to be held in Geneva, Palais des Nations, from 8 (from 9.30 h) to 10 (until 17.30 h) October 2003, GRB agreed on the following agenda:

- (a) Informal meeting of the GRB informal group for the development of an improved vehicle test method (subject to confirmation by WP.29 at its November 2002 session)

To be held on Wednesday, 8 October 2003, from 9.30 h till 17.30 h. The agenda of the meeting will be prepared by the GRB informal group secretariat and distributed to the members of the group prior to the meeting. Note by the secretariat: This informal meeting will be held without interpretation.

- (b) Thirty-eighth session of the GRB proper

To be held on Thursday, 9 October 2003, from 9.30 h until 17.30 h and on Friday, 10 October 2003, from 9.30 h until 17.30 h 1/ 2/:

1. Amendments to ECE Regulations
  - 1.1. Regulation No. 51 - development (Noise of M and N categories of vehicles)
  - 1.2. Regulation No. 59 - (Replacement silencing systems)
2. Exchange of information on national and international requirements on noise levels 3/
3. Election of officers
4. Other business.

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1/ As part of the secretariat's efforts to reduce expenditure, all the official documents distributed prior to the session, by mail and/or placed on the ECE WP.29 web-site, will not be available in the conference room for distribution to session participants. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to the meeting. (The web-site address of the GRB documents: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29grb.html>)

2/ New dates assigned by the UNOG Conference Services (TRANS/WP.29/861, para. 22 and annex 2)

3/ Delegations are invited to submit brief written statements on the latest status in national requirements and, if necessary, to supplement this information orally.

Annex 1

## LIST OF INFORMAL DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT A SYMBOL DURING THE SESSION

No.	Transmitted by	Agenda item	Language	Title
1.	Japan	2.1.	E	Study on pass-by noise test methods incorporating urban driving conditions (Test Method of N2 category)
2.	Netherlands	2.1.	E	Proposal for amendments to document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4
3.	Russian Federation	2.1.	R/E	Proposal for draft amendments to Regulation No. 51
4.	Russian Federation	2.2.	R/E	Proposal for draft amendments to Regulation No. 59
5.	Netherlands	1.	E	Measurement results of passenger car tyres
6.	ISO	2.1.	E	Report of the ISO/TC43/SC1/WG42 - Status of the development of an advanced urban driving procedure
7.	Italy	2.1.	E	Italian proposal for amendments to document TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4
8.	ISO	2.1.	E	Draft report of the 22nd plenary meeting of ISO/TC43/SC1/WG42 "Noise"
9.	Netherlands	3.	E	Peak noise during the evening and night
10.	Secretariat	2.1.	E	Draft Revision to TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4 (to be prepared after the GRB session, see para. 20 of the report)

Annex 2

TERMS OF REFERENCE:  
GRB INFORMAL GROUP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
AN IMPROVED VEHICLE TEST METHOD

Adopted by GRB at its thirty-seventh session  
(subject to WP.29 consent, see paras. 16 to 19)

1. The informal group shall revise the draft amendments to Regulation No. 51 - Noise emissions of M and N categories of vehicles, proposed by Germany and ISO (TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2002/4) including the proposed amendments on which GRB agreed during its thirty-seventh session. The result of work of the informal group shall be considered by GRB at its thirty-eighth session in September 2003.

2. In its work the informal group should take into consideration the technical expertise of ISO as well as the conclusions drawn by GRB from the Questionnaire (TRANS/WP.29/GRB/33, annex 3) concerning the need for updating the test method of Regulation No. 51.

3. If possible, the informal group should identify the correlation that exists between noise values obtained from vehicles assessed against the procedures specified in the current Regulation with those specified by the new proposal.

Rules of Procedure

4. The informal group is open to all participants of GRB. A maximum of three participants from any country and organization shall participate in the informal group.

5. A Chairman and a Secretary shall govern the informal group.

6. The official language of the informal group should be English.

7. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of the group in a suitable electronic format in advance of the meeting.

The group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated 10 working days in advance.

8. An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the informal group in advance of all scheduled meetings.

9. All communications of the informal group will be directed to the GRB heads of delegations.

10. The conclusions of the informal group shall be based on a majority vote of governmental members.

11. If the informal group could not reach a common agreement, the proposals shall be presented to GRB, in order to take a decision.

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