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PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 48

(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Transmitted by the expert from Japan

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Japan, in order to complete Regulation No. 48 with prescriptions regarding the use of the additional light source operating automatically in conjunction with the direction indicator.

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on Lighting and Light-Signalling only.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 6.2.7., amend to read:

"... the gas-discharge light sources shall remain switched on during the main beam operation.

One additional light source, located inside the dipped-beam headlamps or in a lamp (except the main-beam headlamp) grouped or reciprocally incorporated with the respective dipped-beam headlamps, may be activated to produce bend lighting, provided that the horizontal radius of curvature of the trajectory of the centre of gravity of the vehicle is 500 m or less.

This may be demonstrated by the manufacturer by calculation or by other means accepted by the authority responsible for type approval.

Moreover, this additional light source, except for the type of moving horizontally the kink of the elbow of the cut-off, on the side of the vehicle, may also be switched ON/OFF automatically when the direction indicators on the same side of the vehicle are switched ON/OFF.

Dipped-beam headlamps may be switched ON or OFF automatically."

Paragraph 6.2.9., amend to read:

"... this shall not apply if bend lighting is produced for a right turn in right hand traffic (left turn in left hand traffic).

The additional light source operated automatically in conjunction with the direction indicator according to the paragraph 6.2.7. shall not be activated at vehicle speed above 40 km/h."

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B. JUSTIFICATION

With regard to the current Regulation. No. 48, a cornering lamp is allowed to be switched ON automatically when the direction indicator is switched ON. An additional light source in the bend lighting headlamp is almost the same as a cornering lamp in its function. Therefore, an additional light source in the bend lighting, except for the type of moving horizontally the kink of the elbow of the cut-off, should also be allowed to be switched ON automatically when the direction indicator is switched ON. This can lead to improving the vehicle safety, and there is no safety problem because excluding of the type for moving horizontally the kink of the elbow of the cut-off can prevent the possibility of dangerous undue glare.
