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Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE)

(Fifty-sixth session, 4-7 April 2006,
agenda item 18.)

PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 10 TO REGULATION No. 50

(Position, stop and direction indicator lamps for mopeds and motorcycles)

Transmitted by the expert from Japan

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Japan in order to clarify the use of category 1 and category 2 devices on mopeds and motorcycles. The text is based on a document without an official symbol (informal document No. GRE-55-8), distributed during the fifty-fifth GRE session (TRANS/WP.29/GRE/55, para. 56). The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in **bold** or ~~strikerough~~ characters.

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

A. PROPOSAL

Annex 6

Paragraph 1., amend to read:

"1. Space to be illuminated

The devices ~~can be of category 1 or 2~~ **shall be of category 2 for motorcycles and of category 1 or 2 for mopeds**. The devices of category ~~2~~ **1** shall be designed to illuminate a space of at least 130 x 240 mm, the devices of category 2 a space of at least 200 x 280 mm."

B. JUSTIFICATION

Note: The current paragraph 1. in Annex 6, contains an error. The text "The devices of **category 2** shall be designed to illuminate a space of at least 130 x 240 mm ...," should be corrected to read "The devices of **category 1** shall be designed to illuminate a space of at least 130 x 240 mm"

For the purpose of promoting the harmonization of regulations, Japan desires to apply Regulation No. 50 and achieve the reciprocal recognition of approvals.

The Japanese regulation requires the brightness of rear-registration-plate illuminating devices, that is about two-fold greater than that specified in Regulation No. 50. JASIC has commissioned a study to be conducted by Japan Automobile Transport Technology Association (JATA) with the cooperation of the National Police Agency in order to see if it is possible to relax the Japanese regulation to the same or similar level required in Regulation No. 50. However, the result of the study indicated that rear-registration plate illuminating devices conforming to Regulation No. 50 are not desirable from the standpoint of crime prevention (e.g., the registration numbers are not readable). For this reason, Japan cannot adopt Regulation No. 50 at the present time.

According to Regulation No. 50, two sizes of the plates for measuring the luminance of rear-registration-plate illuminating devices may be used: category 1 (130 x 240 mm) and category 2 (200 x 280 mm). Under the Japanese regulation, the plate size is required to be 125 x 230 mm, which is smaller than category 1 of Regulation No. 50, and the devices approved under Regulation No. 50 by using the category 1 plate do not conform to the Japanese photometric requirements. Nevertheless, the devices approved under Regulation No. 50 by using the category 2 plate can satisfy most of the Japanese photometric requirements if the upper edge of the Japanese plate is placed over the upper edge of the approved plate location (see Figure on the next page).

In other words, the photometric requirements of Regulation No. 50 will become almost equivalent to those of the Japanese regulation if the current provision allowing for the use of either category 1 or category 2 in applying for approvals is amended to designate the use of

category 2 for motorcycles. Japan intends to adopt Regulation No. 50 if the above amendment is made.

JASIC has undertaken a survey on its own regarding the sizes of rear-registration-plates for motorcycles used in European countries. The result showed that most of the countries are using plates of the size similar to that of category 2. Accordingly, Japan anticipates that this proposal is likely to be approved by GRE.

However, Japan is prepared to withdraw this proposal if other Contracting Parties insist that the category 1 plate must be used in approvals even for motorcycles.

In this case, our next proposal would be to amend Regulation No. 50 to isolate the provisions relating to rear-registration-plate illuminating devices from Regulation No. 50 and move them to the provisions concerning the illumination of rear-registration plates in Regulation No. 4 and to limit the applicability of Regulation No. 50 to lighting and light-signaling lamps excluding the rear-registration-plate illuminating devices.

Japan would welcome opinions of the other Contracting Parties regarding this proposal.

Reference Figure

