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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

One-hundred-and-forty-sixth session
Geneva, 11 – 14 November 2008
Item 4.2.9 of the provisional agenda

1958 AGREEMENT

Consideration of draft amendments to existing Regulations

Proposal for the 08 series of amendments to Regulation No. 17
(Strength of seats)

Submitted by the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP) */

The text reproduced below was adopted by GRSP at its forty-third session. It is based on Annex VI to the report. It is transmitted to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and to the Administrative Committee (AC.1) for consideration (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/43, para. 36).

*/ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

Paragraph 1., amend to read:

"1. SCOPE

This Regulation applies to:

.....

..... with regard to side-facing to these seats."

Paragraph 2.3., amend to read:

"2.3. "Seat" means ... to seat one person. Depending on its orientation, a seat is defined as follows:"

Insert new paragraphs 2.3.1. to 2.3.3., to read:

"2.3.1. "Forward-facing seat" means a seat which can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the front of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of less than + 10° or - 10° with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle;

2.3.2. "Rearward-facing seat" means a seat which can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the rear of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of less than + 10° or - 10° with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle;

2.3.3. "Side-facing seat" means a seat which, with regard to its alignment with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle, does not meet either of the definitions given in paragraph 2.3.1. or 2.3.2. above;"

Paragraph 4.2., amend to read

"4.2. ...two digits (at present 08, corresponding to the 08 series of amendments) shall...."

Insert new paragraphs 5.1. to 5.1.3., to read:

"5.1. General requirements

5.1.1. The installation of side-facing seats shall be prohibited in vehicles of categories M₁, N₁, M₂ (of class III or B) and M₃ (of class III or B).

5.1.2. It does not apply to ambulances or to vehicles intended for use by the armed services, civil defence, fire services and forces responsible for maintaining public order.

5.1.3. It shall also not apply to vehicles of category M₃ (of class III or B) of a technically permissible maximum laden mass exceeding 10 tonnes in which side facing seats are grouped together at the rear of the vehicle to form an integrated room of up to 10 seats. Such side-facing seats shall be fitted with, at least, a head restraint and a two-

point belt with retractor type-approved in accordance with Regulation No. 16. The anchorages for the safety belts shall comply with Regulation No. 14."

Paragraphs 5.1. to 5.1.7. (former), renumber as paragraphs 5.2. to 5.2.7.

Paragraph 5.2. (former), renumber as paragraph 5.3. and add a new indent after the title to read:

"5.3. General specifications....

With the exception of the provisions of paragraph 5.1., the requirements also apply to side-facing seats of all categories of vehicles."

Paragraphs 5.2.1. to 5.2.3. (former), renumber as paragraphs 5.3.1. to 5.3.3.

Paragraph 5.2.4., renumber as paragraphs 5.3.4. and amend to read:

"5.3.4. All seats which can be tipped forward or have fold-on backs must lock automatically in the normal position. This requirement does not apply to seats fitted in the wheelchair spaces of vehicles of category M₂ or M₃ of class I, II or A."

Paragraphs. 5.3. to 5.15. (former), renumber as paragraphs 5.4. to 5.16.

Insert new paragraphs 13.7. to 13.12., to read:

"13.7. As from the official date of entry into force of the 08 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant ECE approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 08 series of amendments.

13.8. As from 24 months after the date of entry into force of the 08 series of amendments, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant ECE approvals only if the requirements of this Regulation, as amended by the 08 series of amendments, are satisfied.

13.9. As from 36 months after the date of entry into force of the 08 series of amendments, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation may refuse to recognize approvals which were not granted in accordance with the 08 series of amendments to this Regulation.

13.10. Notwithstanding paragraphs 13.8. and 13.9., approvals of the vehicle categories which are not affected by the 08 series of amendments shall remain valid and Contracting Parties applying the Regulation shall continue to accept them."

13.11. As long as there are no requirements forbidding side-facing seats in their national requirements at the time of acceding to this Regulation, Contracting Parties may continue to allow the fitting of side-facing seats for the purpose of national approval and in this case these bus categories cannot be type approved under this Regulation

- 13.12. The exemption referred to in paragraph 5.1.3. shall cease to have effect on 20 October 2010. It may be extended if reliable accident statistics are available and there has been further development of restraint systems."

Annex 2

Amend the figure "07", to read "08" (10 times, including all the figures).

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