OICA PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2008/86
(Draft Supplement 2 to the 04 series of amendments to Regulation No. 48)

A. PROPOSAL

(Deletion from the text of document TRANS/WP.29/2008/86 shown in strikethrough characters.)

Paragraph 5.2.1, amend to read:

"5.2.1 In the case of headlamps fitted with measures to prevent discomfort to other road-users in a country where traffic operates on the side of the road opposite to that of the country for which the headlamp was designed, such measures shall be achieved by the vehicle user with the vehicle in the park condition without the need for special tools (other than those provided with the vehicle 5/). The vehicle manufacturer shall provide with the vehicle a detailed description of the procedure.

5/ This does not apply to dedicated objects that may be added to the exterior of the headlamp"

B. JUSTIFICATION

During its 59th session, GRE adopted the revision to Regulation No 48 on which this proposal is based and it will be considered by WP.29 at its 146th session in November 2008, as part of the draft Supplement 2 to the 04 Series of amendments, document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2008/86.

Vehicle manufacturers have studied the possible ways to implement the required measures to convert headlamp beams for operation in opposite traffic (the "tourist solution") and have found that the ideal solution would be to carry out the operation automatically. This could be realized for example by a GPS signal or controlled by an image analysis system. The vehicle user would not have to take any action to initiate this operation but it would require the vehicle ignition to be switched "on" for such an automatic system to operate. As such solutions would be more effective and more likely to be implemented than solutions requiring action by the vehicle user, they should not be prevented by the Regulation.

OICA therefore proposes to delete the words "by the vehicle user with the vehicle in the park condition" in order to facilitate such systems.

This deletion will not reduce the effectiveness of the more conventional solutions as it will still be necessary for the operation to be possible "without the need for special tools (other than those provided with the vehicle)" and the requirement for a detailed description of the procedure would ensure that the vehicle user will be instructed to place the vehicle in the park condition.

Ideally this revision should become a corrigendum or "Rev 1" to the original amendment, which could be submitted to WP.29 at the same time so as to avoid a double-submission of closely related amendments.