



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2010/55  
23 December 2009

Original: ENGLISH

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

One-hundred-and-fifty session  
Geneva, 9-12 March 2010  
Item 4.4 of the provisional agenda

1958 AGREEMENT

Development of an International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system

Proposal to develop a road map for establishing the common bases of  
International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA)

Submitted by the representative of Japan \*/

The text reproduced below was prepared by the representative of Japan for the development of a road map by an informal group for the establishment of the common basis of International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA). It is based on informal document No. WP.29-149-11, distributed at the 149th session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1079, para. 65)

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\*/ 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.

## **I. OBJECTIVE OF THE PROPOSAL**

1. The objective of this proposal is to develop a road map for establishing the common bases of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA).
2. The following issues should be addressed regarding motor vehicles' and their trailers' regulatory framework:
  - A. Economic and social issues
    1. The increasing motorization around the world especially in emerging countries causes serious safety and environmental problems related to automobiles.
    2. Globalization of economy requires leaner and more efficient market access.
  - B. Issues on vehicle regulations and certification system
    1. Regulations under the Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles and the conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions (E/ECE/324-E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.2), called thereafter "1958 Agreement", do not cover all Regulations necessary for a whole vehicle type approval.
    2. Countries/regions that plan to introduce a vehicle type approval and/or mutual recognition of approvals do not have a universal system to lean upon, and therefore, have to come up with their own unique system.
3. To tackle these issues, it is necessary to develop the IWVTA system by upgrading the current mutual recognition of approval, which only covers vehicle equipments and parts, to one that covers the entire vehicle.
4. In order to do so, a first step would be to establish the common bases regarding basic elements necessary for establishing the IWVTA system.
5. If the IWVTA system (including all technical requirements on a whole vehicle) is established in the framework of the 1958 Agreement, Contracting Parties' activities for harmonization of regulations related to vehicle constructions and equipments will be accelerated, while maintaining road safety and environmental protection. In addition, the system will serve as a model system that would help the aligned vehicle type approval system to be established around the world.

## II. DRAFT WORKPLAN FOR ROAD MAP INFORMAL GROUP

6. This informal group will work on the following items and develop a road map for establishing the common bases of the IWVTA system for consideration at the 153th session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) in March 2011.

### A. Confirmation of tasks in a broad framework

#### 1. Confirmation of preconditions

- (a) To establish the IWVTA system in the framework of the 1958 Agreement
- (b) The IWVTA system to cover procedures up to the issuance of certificates of conformity related to a whole vehicle; the registration of vehicles in each country based on those certificates of conformity to be carried out pursuant to its national legislation (reference: European Union-Whole Vehicle Type Approval (WVTA))
- (c) The system to be implemented for passenger cars primarily

#### 2. Consideration of elements necessary for the IWVTA system

The following elements will be considered as common bases for the IWVTA system, and reflected in documents related to the framework of the 1958 Agreement including the Regulations annexed to it, the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3), etc., as necessary.

- (a) Scope under this system (passenger cars; M<sub>1</sub> category of vehicles)
- (b) Information necessary for specifying applicants' vehicles
  - (i) Definitions of vehicle types
  - (ii) Definitions of categories, dimensions and masses
  - (iii) Other vehicle specifications
- (c) Application documents
- (d) Treatment of procedures for modification (discussions on revision, extension, etc. being held at GRSG)
- (e) Technical requirements necessary for the IWVTA system to be developed as regulatory items under the 1958 Agreement
- (f) Regulatory interpretation issue

3. Identification of issues to be addressed by amending the 1958 Agreement
- B. Confirmation of the work schedule
7. 2011-2016: completion of the tasks described above
- C. Agreement on the establishment of the IWVTA informal group
8. The IWVTA informal group will be established to complete the tasks described above.

### **III. OTHER ISSUES**

9. If, based on the consideration by the IWVTA informal group, it is justified that the activity should continue to further consider elements necessary for mutual recognition of approvals among Contracting Parties, an additional informal group may be established.

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