Proposal to amend UNECE-Regulation 17

I. Proposal

Paragraph 2.3.3., amend to read:

“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 can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the side of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of 90° (± 10°) with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle;”

Paragraph 5.1.1., amend to read:

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

Paragraph 5.1.3., shall be deleted

Paragraph 13.12., shall be deleted

Insert new paragraphs 13.12 – 13.14

“13.12. As from the official date of entry into force of the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments.

13.13 As from [24 months] after the date of entry into force of the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant approvals only if the requirements of this Regulation, as amended by the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments, are satisfied.

13.14 As from [60 months] after the date of entry into force of the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments, Contracting parties applying this Regulation may refuse to recognize approvals which were not granted in accordance with the 01 supplement to 08 series of amendments.”

II. Justification

The scope of Regulation No. 17 explicitly mentions in indent (b) that Regulation No. 17 applies only to those seats in vehicles of categories M2 and M3 which are not covered in Regulation No. 80.

As Regulation No. 80 deals with passenger seats (seats mounted in the passenger compartment of a bus) of vehicles of categories M2 (Class II, III and B) and M3 (Class II, III and B), only driver seats in all vehicles and passenger seats in vehicles of categories M2 and M3 (Classes I and A) are left to be dealt with by Regulation No. 17.

Furthermore the 02 series of amendments to Regulation No. 80 now covers side-facing seats, too.

The relevant paragraphs of the 08 series of amendments therefore are superfluous and should consequently be omitted.