

Informal Group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles

Background:

Tackling climate change and improving energy efficiency are two of the major challenges currently facing transport policymakers around the world. In this context, the development and introduction of EFV's as well as renewable fuels are the main fields of action. The platform for the discussions and deliberations on EFV was made through the EFV Conferences. The need to have cooperation between EFV conferences and WP.29 has been identified at the very first EFV conference. Also, It was decided by G8 to organize regularly EFV conferences every second year, and to have a regular status report on these issues to the G8 leaders. This gives to EFV conferences an international status which makes the cooperation with WP.29 easier. Therefore, during 143rd session of WP29 in November 2007, the World Forum agreed to establish a GRPE Informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles under GRPE in collaboration with GRB.

Terms of Reference:

The objective of this group is to continue a fruitful cooperation between WP.29 and the future EFV conferences; it is proposed to establish an informal group under GRPE as a parallel activity. In a first step the informal group shall prepare a review of the feasibility of the proposed EFV concept (evaluation method, holistic approach). Taking the idea of worldwide harmonization into account, the applicability of the EFV concept needs to be considered for all regions of the world. Therefore following work packages are foreseen:

- The available literature and concepts, including regulations and standards, shall be screened and analysed.
- In a first step energy efficiency and CO₂ emissions will be considered and assessed on the basis of an integrated "well-to-wheels" approach.
- The feasibility of the successful development of a harmonised evaluation method should be examined and assessed.

EFV Conferences:

1st Conference: 23-24 January 2003, Tokyo
 2nd Conference: 10 -11 November 2005, Birmingham
 3rd Conference: 19 – 20 November 2007, Dresden
 4th Conference: 23 – 24 November 2009, New-Delhi
 5th Conference: 2011 / 12 USA

EFV Informal Group Meetings:

Meeting	Chairman	Venue	Date
1 st IG Meeting	Mr. Christoph Albus (Germany)	Geneva	6 June 2008
2 nd IG Meeting	Mr. Christoph Albus (Germany)	Bonn (Germany),	31 October 2008
3 rd IG Meeting	Mr. Christoph Albus (Germany)	Geneva	15/16 January 2009
4 th IG Meeting	Mr. Christoph Albus (Germany)	Brussels (Belgium)	22/23 April 2009
5 th IG Meeting	Mr. Ambuj Sharma (India)	New-Delhi (India)	25 th November 2009
6 th IG Meeting	Mr. Shrikant R. Marathe (India)	Geneva	15 th January, 2010
7 th IG Meeting	Mr. Ambuj Sharma (India)	Geneva	11th June 2010
8 th IG Meeting	Mr. Shrikant R. Marathe (India)	Geneva	14 th January 2011

The EFV Informal group hosted the document which contains basically the executive summary of the main output of the work of the EFV informal group, the background document regarding the feasibility statement of an EFV concept (informal document GRPE-58-02). The EFV group had changed, at its 4th IG meeting held in April 2009, the name of the Feasibility Statement to: "Background document regarding the Feasibility Statement for the development of a methodology to evaluate Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV)" and hosted as Informal document GRPE 58-02.

The EFV group also proposed a schedule for the continuation of work on EFV issue:

1st step: To send the Feasibility Statement to WP.29 and to 4th EFV Conference in India (Nov 2009) for deliberation and discussion.

2nd step: Based on the outcome of the 4th EFV, the development of a detailed concept and a proposal for an EFV evaluation method to WP.29 and to the 5th EFV conference (2011 / 2012).

3rd step: Based on step 2, development of a document (Special Resolution or Consolidated Resolution), and adoption by WP.29.

In earlier discussions of EFV phase, it was decided that focusing solely on the vehicle may not yield the required results. Rather, the development has to consider a holistic approach, e.g. Energy consumption and the emission of greenhouse gases have to be evaluated on the basis of an integrated "well-to-wheels" approach which comprises both the preceding fuel provision chain ("well-to-tank") and the fuel use in the vehicles ("tank-to-wheels"). The possibility of an extensive lifecycle evaluation, which also takes into account the issues of development - production - use - disposal of vehicles, should be examined as well. This should be further developed beyond the vehicle lifecycle considering also interfaces like vehicle and energy supply infrastructure, driver - vehicle interaction and other elements in an Integrated Approach.

However, it was concluded that, from a technical and scientific point of view, it was not feasible to develop an entire holistic EFV concept, because there are differences and multiple specifications, weightings, factors subject to regional or temporal circumstances and data availability concerning environmental aspects.

After lot of discussions, the EFV Informal group has finalized the four parameters which could be considered for the assessment of EFV and further discussions on these parameters can be taken up by the Informal Group.

1. CO2 Emissions
2. Regulated Pollutants
3. Noise
4. Recycling

India had prepared the initial documents related to these 4 parameters and also labeling which are now under discussion by the Group.

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