

Proposal to establish a permanent group for the IWVTA process

At the 7th meeting of the informal group on IWVTA Germany has expressed the idea to guide the IWVTA process with an installation of a working group after the adoption of UN R0. The task of the group should be to manage and administer the procedure, to ensure a certain level of quality of UN R0 approvals and to be an open platform for exchange of information.

Germany sees the necessity of such an instrument to solve issues related to the process of a further development of an international whole vehicle type approval procedure. Not only, but especially at the beginning of this process there will be the need to clearly align the way of the procedure being applied for granting approvals in the different regions. As a communication platform the group could also help to discuss and to settle general items that may arise during this process.

For the management and administration of the IWVTA system several options are possible:

- Option 1: Install a new GR group,
- Option 2: Mandate an existing GR group,
- Option 3: Install a permanent informal group linked to WP.29 and AC.1.

Due to restrictions in budget and capacity at the UNECE the installation of a new GR group (Option 1) is not feasible. Option 2 is not very favorable due to the fact that most of the GR groups have already a very tight schedule in serving the current business, and none of the existing GR's has enough experts in the field of administrative and approval issues. Therefore option 3 in having a permanent informal group directly linked to WP.29 and AC.1 is most promising to cover the necessary items in an adequate manner.

As the IWVTA procedure is linked to the type approval procedure under the 1958 agreement Germany proposes to link this informal group as an administrative body for the IWVTA directly to WP.29 and AC.1 (Option 3).

The idea was to create this group not only for the preparation of documentation for discussion and decision at the WP.29 and AC.1 related to the IWVTA process, but also to give the opportunity to type approval authorities to join this group for clarifying open items. This would mean that the informal group would cover all administrative and technical issues related to the IWVTA process, while the technical aspects of regulations added to UN-R0 will be dealt within the GRs. As example the main tasks to be covered would be:

- Further development of UN R0 and related issues ,
- Clarify interpretations of the IWVTA process,
- Clarify interpretations of IWVTA approvals,
- Management of the DETA system in future, after its establishment.

As the German position is to have a documentation system like DETA installed as part of a quality assurance for the process of an international whole vehicle type approval, the informal group could also cover the management of the DETA system in future. Regarding DETA it has to be kept in mind that additionally to the technical and organizational aspects some commercial issues for the use of the database have to be dealt with as well.

Regarding the schedule, Germany is proposing to install the informal group after the finalization of the work of the two working teams for UN-R0 and the revision of the 1958 agreement. This would give enough time, experience and knowledge about the future process of the IWVTA system to clearly define the terms of references of this permanent IWVTA informal group in the interim.