Proposal for Supplement 11 to the 04 series of amendments

Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Submitted by the expert from the Netherlands*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the Netherlands clarifying the requirements for the mandatory manual override of the automatic/adaptive driving beam (ADB) control. It is a revision of ECE/TRANS/29/GRE/2012/23, as discussed during the sixty-seventh session of the Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE). The modifications to the existing text of the Regulation are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.1.7.2., amend to read:

"6.1.7.2. It shall always be possible to switch the main-beam headlamps ON and OFF manually and to manually switch the automatic control of the main-beam headlamps.

Moreover, the switching OFF, of the main-beam headlamps and of their automatic control, shall be by means of a simple and immediate manual operation (multi-step operations, such as the use of sub-menus, are not allowed)."

Paragraph 6.22.7.1.3., amend to read:

"6.22.7.1.3. It shall always be possible to switch the main-beam headlamps, adaptive or non-adaptive, ON and OFF manually and to manually switch the automatic control.

Moreover, the switching OFF, of the main-beam headlamps and of their automatic control, shall be by means of a simple and immediate manual operation (multi-step operations, such as the use of sub-menus, are not allowed)."

II. Justification

1. This proposal aims at clarifying the intent of the Regulation, regarding the mandatory manual override of the ADB control, by clearly stating that such manual switching shall be done by means of a simple and immediate operation.

2. During the discussions on the manual override switching, the word "always" has been essential for the correct understanding of the intent of this requirement, in our view. It was meant to ensure safety at all time, by offering the possibility for the driver to immediately respond to any incorrect, or undesired, automatic operation.

3. Also, in view of respecting the principle that the driver is ultimately responsible for safe operation of the vehicle, the driver has to have full and immediate control of ADB; particularly in the case of a malfunction (e.g. glaring oncoming vehicle). Consequently, an immediate operation is, effectively, also required to obey this principle.

4. During a first exchange of views during its sixty-seventh session, GRE agreed in principle with this proposal. However, several Contracting Parties suggested that, concerning the manual override, the switching OFF has the highest priority with regard to safety. Therefore, it is proposed to only impose this requirement for the switching OFF.

5. Furthermore, concerns were expressed by several experts that the wording "single step" would be too restrictive. The wording has now been changed, requiring that it shall be by means of a "simple and immediate" manual operation.

6. Finally, additional wording has been added in parenthesis to clarify that multi-step operations, such as the use of sub-menus, are not allowed.

7. The additional clarifying text is proposed for two relevant paragraphs (both for automatic and adaptive driving beam) in this Regulation.