Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling
Sixty-eighth session
Geneva, 16–18 October 2012
Item 11 of the provisional agenda
Regulation No. 31 (Halogen Sealed Beam Headlamps)

Proposal for Supplement 9 to the 02 series of amendments to Regulation No. 31 (Halogen sealed beam headlamps)

Submitted by the expert from the Working Party "Brussels 1952"

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the Working Party "Brussels 1952" (GTB) correcting the title of the Regulation. 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

The title of the Regulation, amend to read:

"UNIFORM PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF POWER-DRIVEN VEHICLE'S HALOGEN SEALED-BEAM HEADLAMPS (HSB) EMITTING AN EUROPEAN ASYMMETRICAL PASSING BEAM OR A DRIVING BEAM OR BOTH"

II. Justification

1. The title of UN Regulation No. 31 was amended by a proposal from the European Commission in 2005 (TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2005/27) deleting the abbreviation ("HSB") as well as the word "Halogen". The motivation for the deletion of the reference to "Halogen" and "HSB" is not clear but it results in the loss of the differentiation between UN Regulations Nos. 5 and 31 as the titles of the Regulations now read as follows:

   UN Regulation No. 5: "Sealed Beam" headlamps (SB) emitting a European asymmetrical passing beam and/or a driving beam"
   UN Regulation No. 31: "Power-driven vehicle's sealed-beam headlamps (SB) emitting an European asymmetrical passing beam or a driving beam or both"

2. As the text of UN Regulation No. 31 consistently refers to "HSB" (see paras. 2.1., 2.4., 3.1.1., 4.1. etc.) and the text of UN Regulation No. 5 consistently refers to "SB", it would appear logical to revert to the original title of UN Regulation No. 31.

3. In addition to the above comments, the GTB experts question the need to maintain UN Regulations Nos. 5 and 31 in force. They relate to old technologies and should probably be "frozen" in the same way as UN Regulations Nos. 2, 8 and 20. GTB will reconsider this opinion at its next meeting in October 2012 and will provide a statement for the following GRE session in March 2013.