Proposal for Supplement 3 to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation 16 (safety belts)

I. Proposal

Paragraph 8.1.8., amend to read:

"8.1.8. With the exception of the case covered by paragraph 8.1.9., every passenger seating position which is fitted with a passenger airbag shall be provided with a warning against the use of a rearward-facing child restraint in that seating position. The warning label, in the form of a pictogram which may include explanatory text, shall be durably affixed and located such that it is easily visible in front of a person about to install a rearward-facing child restraint on the seat in question. An example of a possible design of a The pictogram is shown in Figure 1. A permanent reference should be visible at all times, in case the warning is not visible when the door is closed.

These requirements are considered as fulfilled, if the vehicle meets the requirements of paragraphs 6.2.1. to 6.2.3 of Supplement 4 to the 01 series of amendments to Regulation 94 or of Supplement 1 to the 02 series of amendments to Regulation 94.

Figure 1, replace by:

"Figure 1

Colors:

(a) the pictogram is red;
(b) seat, child seat and contour line of the airbag are black;
(c) the word airbag as well as the airbag are white."

[Add new paragraphs 15.2.23. and 15.2.24., to read:

"15.2.23. As from the official date of entry into force of Supplement 3 to the 06 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant UNECE approval under this Regulation as amended by Supplement 3 to the 06 series of amendments.

15.2.24. As from 23 June 2013, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant UNECE approvals only to those types of vehicles which comply with the requirements of this Regulation as amended by Supplement 3 to the 06 series of amendments."}
II. Justification

The requirements for the airbag warning label were recently amended by Supplement 4 to the 01 series of amendments and by Supplement 1 to the 02 series of amendments to Regulation 94. It therefore appears necessary to align the corresponding prescriptions of Regulation 16.

Furthermore, it seems also necessary to clarify that these labelling requirements address passenger airbags (frontal collision, as defined in paragraph 2.9 of Regulation 16) in order to avoid confusion with lateral collision airbags (which can be considered as included in paragraph 2.8 of Regulation 16).

Finally, it might be opportune to review the need for transitional provisions, in line with the decision of WP29 in November 2011 (see doc. WP.29/1093, paragraph 61). Taking the expected earliest date of entry into force of the proposed Supplement 3 to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation 16, such transitional provisions might possibly be omitted, depending on the date of entry into force.