

**First draft report on the self-evaluation of the activities of the
Vehicle Regulations and Technical Innovations Section
(UNECE Transport Division) servicing the
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)**

Self-evaluation cycle: January 2012 – June 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The objective of this self-evaluation is to assess the process and efficiency of the secretariat of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) in servicing the sessions of the World Forum and its subsidiary bodies, focusing in the period January 2012 to June 2013.
2. The main objective of the Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is contributing to ensuring an efficient and well-balanced transport system in the region, with a high level of quality, safety, environmental protection and energy efficiency. In order to achieve these objectives, one of the most relevant sectors of transport activity is vehicle regulations.
3. With more than 50 years of existence and participation from all the main countries producing vehicles, the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) is the unique intergovernmental body providing a framework for globally harmonized regulations on motor vehicles. The benefits of such harmonized regulations are tangible for road safety, environmental protection and trade facilitation.
4. Any country that is a member of the United Nations and any regional economic integration organization that has been set up by these country members may participate in the activities of the World Forum and may become a Contracting Party to the Agreements administered by WP.29. Governmental and intergovernmental, as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with a consultative status, may also participate in the discussions of WP.29 and its subsidiary working groups. WP.29s work is transparent: all agendas, working documents and reports are freely accessible from the website of the World Forum.¹ Participation in its sessions is open to the public.

II. THE WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS

5. WP.29 is a permanent body which was established on 6 June 1952, as the Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles — within the institutional framework of the United Nations — with a specific mandate and rules of procedure. It has become the unique worldwide regulatory body in the construction of motor vehicles. WP.29 brings together experts from Governments with those from the vehicle manufacturing industry, their suppliers, the transport industry and associations of users and consumers from all over the world. It functions as a global forum² allowing open discussions on the development of motor vehicle regulations in the framework of international agreements according to which new vehicles, their equipment and parts shall be manufactured. The three agreements (see paras. 7 to 11) aim to provide a regulatory framework for worldwide harmonized provisions on active and passive safety of vehicles, as well to develop harmonized test requirements for vehicle emissions of pollutants, particulates, carbon dioxide and noise. These provisions are performance oriented and are continuously adapted to the rapid technical progress and especially innovative vehicle technologies.
6. In 2000, WP.29 became the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and open to any nation. Today, in addition to the European countries, others outside of the UNECE area (i.e. Australia, China, Egypt, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Thailand, and Tunisia) have become Contracting Parties to the Agreements administered by the World Forum. Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) recently announced their interest in becoming Contracting Parties to at least one of the three legal instruments administered by WP.29: the

¹ www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.htm.

² The March 2013 session brought together some 120 delegates representing 24 UNECE countries, 7 non-European countries, 2 inter-governmental organizations and 10 NGOs.

1958 Agreement³ and the 1998 Agreement⁴ on the construction of new vehicles, and the 1997 Agreement⁵ on periodical technical inspections of vehicles in use. WP.29 ensures consistency between the technical provisions developed in the framework of these agreements.

7. **The 1958 Agreement** provides the Contracting Parties with a legal and administrative framework for the construction of new vehicles by establishing international UN Regulations (annexed to the Agreement) with uniform performance oriented test provisions including administrative procedures for granting type approvals, for the conformity of production and for the mutual recognition of the type approvals granted by Contracting Parties. Contracting Parties applying a UN Regulation annexed to the Agreement may issue approvals according to that UN Regulation and shall mutually recognize the approvals granted by the other Contracting Parties applying the Regulation. Contracting Parties are not obliged to adopt all UN Regulations annexed to the Agreement, but may decide to apply all, some or any of the UN Regulations. When depositing its instrument of accession, any new Contracting Party to the Agreement may declare that it is not bound (i) by certain UN Regulations annexed to the Agreement or (ii) by any of them. The UN Regulations are regularly amended in order to adapt them to the technical progress, whenever appropriate, taking into account political guidance from the Contracting Parties and the evolution of scientific knowledge. New UN Regulations are adopted by a two-thirds majority of the Contracting Parties. To date, 51 Contracting Parties⁶ succeeded to the Agreement in which 132 UN Regulations were annexed. In 2012, WP.29 adopted 96 amendments to the existing UN Regulations and five new UN Regulations, in particular on Light Emitting Diode (LED) light sources, Enhanced Child Restraint Systems (ECRS), Pedestrian Safety (PS), Lane Departure Warning (LDW) systems and Automatic Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS).

8. Notwithstanding its worldwide success, the 1958 Agreement did not provide a basis for a formal application in all countries using the principle of self-certification, wherein the manufacturer (or the importer) of a vehicle or its equipment certifies that the vehicle or equipment complies with the applicable national legislation. No prior verification is required by a governmental agency before the vehicle or equipment enters the market of such countries. However, authorities may conduct tests and, if a noncompliance is found, order a recall and/or other corrective and/or punitive measures. In this respect, a new parallel Agreement was concluded in 1998.

9. **The 1998 Agreement** stipulates that Contracting Parties will establish, by consensus vote, United Nations Global Technical Regulations (UN GTRs) in a UN Global Registry. The UN GTRs contain globally harmonized test procedures including performance requirements. Each UN GTR contains extensive notes on its development. The preamble includes a record of the technical rationale, the research sources used, cost and benefit considerations, and references to data consulted. For the administrative procedures, the Contracting Parties use their nationally established rulemaking processes when transposing UN GTRs into their national legislation. To date, 33 Contracting Parties⁷ have acceded to the 1998 Agreement and twelve GTRs have been established in the Global Registry. In 2012, new GTR No. 12 (location, identification and operation of motorcycle controls, tell-tales and indicators) was established into the Global Registry and two amendments were made to existing GTRs.

10. The 1958 and 1998 Agreements, applicable for the construction of new vehicles, have been supplemented by the 1997 Agreement aimed at developing harmonized technical provisions for vehicles in service to ensure the roadworthiness throughout their lifetime with respect to the vehicle's safety and environmental performance.

11. **The 1997 Agreement** provides harmonized technical and administrative provisions on Periodical Technical Inspections (PTI) for vehicles in use. Contracting Parties applying a UN Rule annexed to the agreement for PTI purposes shall reciprocally recognize the international technical inspection certificate issued by the inspection authority of another Contracting Party applying that UN Rule, if they agreed so. Currently, two UN Rules were annexed to the 1997 Agreement: UN Rule No. 1 on emissions of pollutants and noise (in force since 2007) and UN Rule No. 2 on general safety provisions, established in 2012. To date, 12 Contracting Parties have acceded to the 1997 Agreement.⁸

³ Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions, of 20 March 1958.

⁴ Agreement concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, of 25 June 1998.

⁵ Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of Such Inspections, of 13 November 1997.

⁶ The European Union and its 27 member States, Albania, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine.

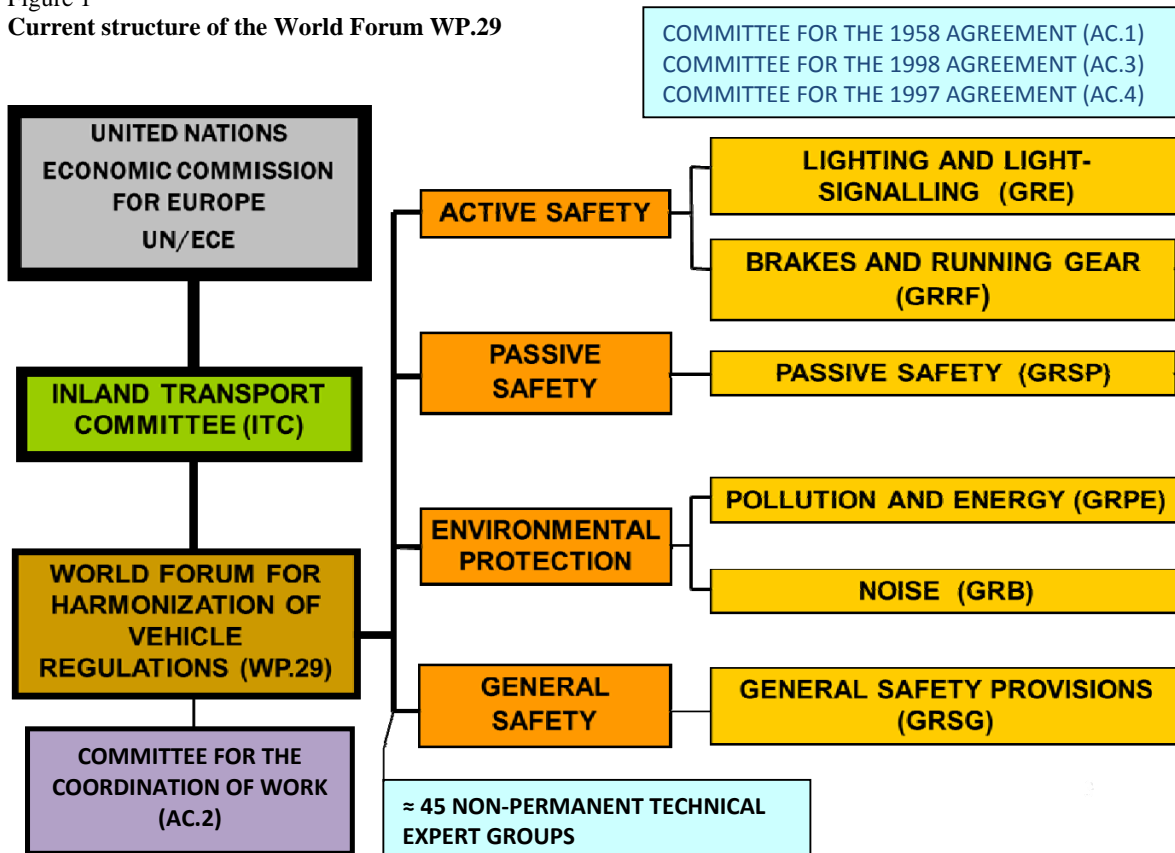
⁷ Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, China, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, European Union.

⁸ Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine.

12. The following **six Working Parties** (known as Groups of Rapporteurs or "GRs") subsidiary to WP.29 have a permanent mandate and the experts participating in these sessions assist in researching, analyzing and developing requirements for technical UN regulations⁹ in their respective areas:

- (a) Working Party on Pollution and Energy (GRPE);
- (b) Working Party on General Safety Provisions (GRSG);
- (c) Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF);
- (d) Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE);
- (e) Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP); and
- (f) Working Party on Noise (GRB).

Figure 1
Current structure of the World Forum WP.29



13. WP.29 holds regular sessions three times a year and the Working Parties twice a year. More than 2,000 delegates participate in the official sessions spanning 54 working days per year. In addition, the World Forum may establish informal groups of experts on specific technical issues requiring research or more specialized expertise. The mandate of these informal groups is time limited and they report either to WP.29 or to one of the Working Parties. Today, more than 45 informal groups work on specific technical matters.¹⁰

⁹ "UN regulations" means (i) the UN Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement, (ii) the UN Global Technical Regulations (GTRs) developed under the 1998 Agreement and (iii) the UN Rules annexed to the 1997 Agreement.

¹⁰ Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), Electronic Database for the Exchange of Type Approval documentation (DETA), Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Vehicles (HFCV), International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA), Enforcement Working Group, IWVTA subgroup on the 1958 Agreement, IWVTA subgroup on Regulation No. 0, Quiet Road Transport Vehicles (QRTV), Vehicle Noise, Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV), Particulate Measurement Programme (PMP), Gaseous-Fuelled Vehicles (GFV), Heavy Duty Hybrids (HDH), Heavy Duty Dual Fuel (HDDF), Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Retrofit Emission Control devices (REC), Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC), Worldwide harmonized Light vehicles Test Procedure (WLTP), WLTP subgroup on the Development of the Harmonized driving Cycle (WLTP-DHC), WLTP subgroup on the

14. The final decisions on any proposed new UN regulations developed by WP.29 or any amendments to existing one are always taken following the rules of each Agreement at the level of the Administrative or Executive Committee by the representatives of those Governments, which are Contracting Parties to the corresponding Agreement.

15. Thanks to the in-depth expertise and involvement of all interested stakeholders, the World Forum has proven its ability to establish high-quality UN regulations on motor vehicles in a timely and efficient manner in response to government needs. An increasing number of Contracting Parties, such as Australia, Japan, Russian Federation and the European Union have decided to replace their national legislation by the UN Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement. The importance of these UN Regulations has not only been recognized by the Contracting Parties themselves, but also by regions such as the ASEAN¹¹ countries and those of SADC, COMESA and EAC¹² as members of the African Tripartite Group on the Harmonization of Motor Vehicle Regulations.

16. With worldwide recognition, the World Forum contributes to specific policy events or organizes regular round tables on subjects such as climate change and transport¹³, market fuel quality¹⁴ and intelligent transport systems¹⁵.

III. THE VEHICLE REGULATIONS AND TRANSPORT INNOVATIONS SECTION

17. In the UNECE Transport Division, the Vehicle Regulations and Transport Innovations Section (VRTIS) provides secretariat services to the World Forum WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies by:

- (a) Organizing the sessions, which involves preparing the:
 - (i) Calendar of sessions: at the second session (June), WP.29 considered and adopted the draft calendar of sessions for the following year (in general 108 half-day sessions per year). Appropriate conference rooms are reserved with interpretation (E/F/R) and the necessary equipment (photocopy machine, computer, beamer, printer, etc.).
 - (ii) Agenda and official documents (pre-session documents): delegates are invited to send their contributions at least 12 weeks prior to the session. This allows the secretariat sufficient time to prepare the provisional agenda and submit it to Document Management Session (DMS) within their deadline. The secretariat then prepares the official documents listed on the provisional agenda and submits them, after review by the editor¹⁶, to DMS for translation (F/R) and publication.
 - (iii) Informal documents and conference room papers (CRPs) (pre-session and in-session documents): all informal documents submitted by delegates before and during the session are numbered and posted on the website. Photocopies are prepared for the delegates and the interpreters. Upon request, CRPs are prepared after each day session and submitted, after editorial review, to DMS for translation and publication.
 - (iv) Report, status documents and legal documents (post-session documents): the report is prepared within the 2 weeks following the session, reviewed by the editor and the Chair, sent to DMS for translation and publication. The status documents and legal documents (English version only) are prepared and reviewed in the 6 months following the session and submitted to DMS for translation (F/R) and publication.
 - (v) Notifications with the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA): the communications/notifications on new UN regulations or on amendments to existing ones are dealt with according to the provisions of the Agreement and to the procedures agreed upon with OLA.

Development of the Test Procedures (WLTP-DTP), WLTP subgroup on Validation Task Force (WLTP-VTF), WLTP subgroup on Lab Process Electric Vehicles (WLTP-LabprocEV), WLTP subgroup on Lab Process Internal Combustion Engines (WLTP-LabprocICE), WLTP subgroup on Additional Pollutants (WLTP-AP), WLTP subgroup on Particulate Mass - Particle Number (WLTP-PMPN), WLTP subgroup on Reference Fuels (WLTP-RF), Electric Vehicles and Environment (EVE), Vehicle Propulsion System Definitions (VPSD), Environmental and Propulsion Performance Requirements of L-category vehicles (EPPR), Tyre-GTR, Automatic Emergency Braking systems (AEBS), Lane Departure Warning systems (LDW), Automated Connections between Vehicles (ACV), coupling devices (Regulation No. 55), Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Vehicles – Subgroup Safety (HFCV-SGS), Child Restraints Systems (CRS), Pedestrian Safety (PS-Phase 2), Electric Vehicle Safety (EVS), Head Restraints (HR-Phase 2), Frontal Impact (FI), Pole Side Impact (PSI), Harmonization of Side Impact Dummies (HSID), Rechargeable Electric Storage Systems (REESS), Plastic Glazing (IGPL), Camera Monitor Systems (CMS).

¹¹ The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The member States of the Association are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.

¹² The Group on the Harmonization of Motor Vehicle Regulations of South African Development Community (SADC), joined with the other regional bodies of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and East African Community (EAC) to become the Tripartite Group on the Harmonization of Motor Vehicle Regulations.

¹³ See www.unece.org/trans/events/climatechange_transport.html

¹⁴ See www.unece.org/trans/events/FuelQuality.html?expandable=3

¹⁵ See www.unece.org/trans/theme_its.html

¹⁶ The Transport Division has one information officer and one editorial assistant

- (b) Ensuring the availability of all documentation on the website and in the conference room, circulation by e-mail: all documentation (legal documents, agenda, official and informal documents, reports, any other information as necessary) are published on the WP.29 website and available in paper for delegates and interpreters during the conferences. Upon request, documents may be distributed by e-mail;
- (c) Administrating the legal instruments in the field of construction and technical inspections of vehicles, including the notification procedures with OLA in New York: all notifications related to the three Agreements (1958, 1998 and 1997) administered by WP.29 are dealt with according to the provisions of the Agreement and to the procedures agreed upon with OLA;
- (d) Promoting the legal instruments: the secretariat represents UNECE at other international conferences, events, etc. and promotes the three Agreements administered by the World Forum WP.29 including the corresponding UN regulations;
- (e) Providing assistance and information to delegates upon request.

18. This assessment focuses on the period January 2012–June 2013 and the next Section IV deals with the main administrative procedures linked to the above tasks of WP.29, its subsidiary bodies and its Administrative and Executive Committees.

19. Five P-staff members (1xP5, 1xP4, 3xP3 – all engineers) service WP.29 with the assistance of two and a half G-staff members (2.5xG5). Some procedures have a more administrative nature (G) and others have a more technical one (P).

IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND TASKS

20. The tasks listed in Section III (a), (b) and (c) above are extremely time consuming and resource intensive activities and are, therefore, subject to a more detailed description in this section. As the tasks of the secretariat are closely linked to the legal instruments administered by WP.29 and differ according to the specific provisions and procedures of each Agreement, the following descriptions of the administrative tasks are listed for each of the three Agreements (1958, 1998 and 1997). The tasks of the P-staff (more technical tasks) and G-staff (general tasks) may be further subdivided into pre-session, in-session, post-session and other activities.

21. The World Forum WP.29 and its six subsidiary Working Parties operate on a permanent mandate and follow the Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Procedure (RoP) in TRANS/WP.29/690 and Amends.1–2. These are available at: www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29tor.html

22. A short description of WP.29 and its administrative procedures is available in the so called Blue Book: "WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS (WP.29), HOW IT WORKS, HOW TO JOIN IT" available (in the six official UN languages) on the WP.29 website. It is available at: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29pub/WP29_Blue_Book_2012_ENG.pdf

23. Specific administrative procedures on delegates' submissions of proposals for new UN rules/regulations or for amendments to existing UN rules/regulations related to each Agreement are listed below:

- (a) **1958 Agreement:**
 - (i) On the basis of an informal document, a delegate (of a Contracting Party, an intergovernmental organization or a NGO accredited by ECOSOC) submits a first draft of the new Regulation or a first proposal to amend a UN Regulation to the secretariat for consideration at the next session of the responsible Working Party. The Secretary (P) verifies the consistency of the proposed amendments with the current text of the UN Regulation in force, allocates a unique number to the informal document, then uploads and publishes it on the appropriate web page and lists it in the provisional agenda.
 - (ii) At its plenary session, the Working Party has a first consideration of the proposal supplemented with a detailed justification. The Secretary in charge of that Working Party notes all relevant comments and positions of delegates. After the session, he drafts a detailed report (English only) on the discussion and the follow-up decisions taken by the Working Party on the proposal, submits the report first to the editor and the Chair of the Working Party for review and makes corrections and considers comments. The report is subsequently transmitted to the G-staff member for publication on the appropriate web page and for submission to DMS for translation and publication. The French and Russian versions are prepared and finalized by DMS and also uploaded onto the website by the G-staff member.

- (iii) If the majority of governmental delegations participating in the Working Party endorsed in principle the amendments proposed in the informal document, the Secretary is requested to distribute, at the next session of the Working Party, the proposal as an official document, taking into account the comments received. The author of the proposal may be invited to provide a further justification or cost-benefit analysis, if necessary. The Secretary then allocates an official symbol to the document, formats it according to DMS's instructions, verifies the technical content and coherence of the proposed provisions or amendments with other UN Regulations linked and/or the existing text of the UN Regulation, clarifies inconsistencies with the author if any, transmits it for review to the editor and incorporates the corrections. The official document (English only) is transmitted to the G-staff member for publication on the appropriate web page and for submission to DMS for translation and publication. The French and Russian versions are prepared and finalized by DMS and are uploaded onto the website by the G-staff member.
- (iv) The Secretary lists the symbol of the official document in the annotated provisional agenda of the next session of the Working Party. At that session, the Working Party considers in detail the proposal on the basis of the official document, which is now available in the three official languages of UNECE (E,F,R). Any expert may suggest, if necessary, further improvements or corrections to the proposed provisions on the basis of informal documents.
- (v) If the Working Party adopts the official document, the Secretary is requested to submit the proposal, as adopted, to WP.29 and the Administrative Committee (AC.1) of the 1958 Agreement, for consideration and formal adoption at their next sessions taking into account the administrative rules and deadlines for submission of documents. In this case, the Working Party Secretary informs the Secretary of WP.29 about the list of documents adopted (follow-up), writes a detailed session report on the decisions taken by the Working Party, allocates an official symbol (given by the Secretary of WP.29 according to the rules of DMS) and prepares the official document (English only) including the amendments, if any, and finally transmits it to the Secretary of WP.29.
- (vi) The Secretary of WP.29 lists the WP.29 document in the annotated provisional agenda for the next sessions of WP.29, AC.1 and the Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work (WP.29/AC.2). He verifies, if necessary, the coherency of the proposed provisions or amendments with other UN Regulations linked and/or the existing text of the Regulation, clarifies inconsistencies, if any, with the author or Secretary/Chair of the Working Party. Subsequently, he transmits the official document to the G-staff member for publication (English version only) on the appropriate website and for submission to DMS for translation and publication. The French and Russian versions are prepared and finalized by DMS and are uploaded onto the website by the G-staff member of the secretariat.
- (vii) At its next session, WP.29/AC.2 considers each official document listed in their provisional agenda and may recommend that WP.29 take a detailed consideration of the proposed amendments or may recommend postponement. The Secretary of WP.29 notes WP.29/AC.2's recommendations, prepares the session report and presents the recommendations at the proper session of the World Forum WP.29.
- (viii) Following the recommendation of WP.29/AC.2, the World Forum WP.29 considers all official language versions (E,F,R) of the proposal, adopt them, if necessary with additional amendments, and submits them to AC.1 for a formal vote by the Contracting Parties applying the UN Regulation concerned. The Secretary of WP.29 takes notes on the outcome of discussion and prepares — on a daily basis — the Conference Room Papers (CRP). He transmits the CRPs (English version only) to the G-staff member for formatting, for review by the editor and for reproduction, as well as submission to DMS.
- (ix) Following the establishment of AC.1 (quorum procedure according to Appendix 1 to the 1958 Agreement), all Contracting Parties vote on a new UN Regulation or the Contracting Parties applying the UN Regulation concerned vote on the proposed amendment, as transmitted by the World Forum WP.29. A new UN Regulation is established by AC.1 by a two-third majority of the Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement, represented and voting. An amendment to an existing UN Regulation is established by AC.1 by a two-third majority of the Contracting Parties, represented and voting, applying the UN Regulation concerned.
- (x) After the AC.1 session, the Secretary of WP.29 notifies the United Nations Secretary-General of the establishment of a new UN Regulation or of new amendments to an existing UN Regulation. These will be considered as adopted unless, within a period of six months from its notification by the Secretary-General, more than one-third of the Contracting Parties applying the Regulation

concerned respective to the Agreement have informed the Secretary-General of their disagreement with the new UN Regulation or amendments to an existing UN Regulation.

- (xi) With the assistance of the G-staff member, the Secretary of WP.29 ensures the follow-up of all notifications by the Secretary-General. After the entry into force of the new UN Regulation or new amendments to an existing UN Regulation, he prepares the legal document (English only) containing the new provisions in force, aligns the status document of the 1958 Agreement (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/343) accordingly, publishes the legal document and the status document (tri-lingual) on the appropriate website and transmits them to DMS for publication purposes. The French and Russian versions of the legal document are prepared by DMS and are uploaded, once finalized, onto the website by the secretariat.
- (xii) With the assistance of the G-staff member, the Secretary of WP.29 keeps an updated archive (paper copies and electronic files) containing the text of all UN Regulations and their amendments.
- (b) **1997 Agreement:**
- (i) The administrative procedures for the submission of a new UN Rule or amendments to an existing UN Rule annexed to the 1997 Agreement are the same than those of the 1958 Agreement as specified in paragraphs (a.i) to (a.viii) above. WP.29/AC.2 convenes a session of the Administrative Committee (AC.4) of the 1997 Agreement, if necessary.
- (ii) The establishment of AC.4, the voting procedure, the notification procedure with OLA and the entry into force of a new UN Rule or of proposed amendments to existing UN Rules are similar to those specified in paragraphs (a.ix) to (a.xii) above, subject to the provisions of the 1997 Agreement.
- (c) **1998 Agreement:**
- (i) Before submitting a new draft UN GTR or a draft amendment to an existing UN GTR under the 1998 Agreement, a Contracting Party to the Agreement:
- May submit to the Executive Committee (AC.3) national technical requirements to be listed in the Compendium of Candidates (for harmonization and possible adoption as a future GTR). If such a request is supported by AC.3, these national technical requirements are listed in the Compendium of Candidates;
 - Shall submit to the Executive Committee (AC.3) a proposal for developing a new UN GTR or for amending the existing UN GTR. If AC.3 endorses the proposal, this is transmitted to the Working Party responsible for that GTR and mandated to develop the new UN GTR or the amendment to an existing UN GTR. A Contracting Party may submit, as technical sponsor of that UN GTR, a concrete proposal for consideration at one of the sessions of the Working Party. Subsequent administrative procedures are the same than those of the 1958 Agreement as specified in paragraphs (a.i) to (a.viii) above.
- (ii) Furthermore, each proposal for a new draft UN GTR or for a draft amendment to an existing UN GTR needs to be supplemented by a preamble containing the technical rationale and justification as well as by a technical report on the development of the final proposal. In general, this is submitted by the technical sponsor. WP.29/AC.2 convenes sessions of AC.3 of the 1998 Agreement if necessary.
- (iii) Following the establishment of AC.3 (quorum procedure according to Annex B to the 1998 Agreement), the Contracting Parties present and voting establish by a consensus vote the proposed new UN GTR or an amendment to an existing UN GTR into the Global Registry.
- (iv) After the establishment of a new UN GTR or amendments to an existing UN GTR into the Global Registry, all Contracting Parties must notify the Secretary-General by way of a yearly status report on the progress made on the transposition of the established UN GTR or established amendments to an existing UN GTR into their national or regional legislation.
- (v) With the assistance of the G-staff member, the Secretary of WP.29 keeps an updated archive (paper copies and electronic files) of:
- The Global Registry containing the text of all GTRs established including their amendments; and

- The Compendium of Candidates containing the text of national technical regulations that are candidates for harmonization of GTRs.

24. This paragraph focuses on the administrative procedures for G-staff in their assistance to the P-staff members. The tasks of servicing the WP.29 sessions are mainly categorized in pre-session tasks and post-session tasks. For the pre-session tasks, an in-depth and up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the UN rules, procedures and systems on organizing sessions is essential. For the post-session tasks, the purpose and understanding of the Agreements administered by WP.29 as well as an in-depth knowledge of the UN regulations is required. The pre-session, in-session and post-session tasks consist in general in the following activities:

(a) **Pre-session and in-session tasks:**

- (i) Prepare and send out invitation letters (3 WP.29/AC.2 sessions per year);
- (ii) Provide assistance to the officers in charge of servicing the 6 Working Parties, particularly with the logistical organization of a total of 12 annual sessions:
 - Reserve conference rooms and the necessary equipment for the sessions;
 - Cooperate with the Conference Service Division on organizing the sessions (nameplates, list of official documents to be made available for delegates);
 - Register delegates and update the official sessions and informal meetings in the Security Database and in the Contact Database.
- (iii) Submit in due time the official documents:
 - Update the documentation forecast for DMS;
 - Review and submit the official documents to DMS by using iDrits;
 - Provide reference material for the translation of official documents and upload onto iDrits;
 - Monitor ODS for the availability of official documents in English/French/Russian and post them on the website;
 - Assist in finalizing the report after the meetings.
- (iv) Make the informal documents available:
 - Upload in the documents on the website;
 - Prepare a limited number of paper copies for participants;
 - Provide all informal documents to the interpreters.
- (v) Provide assistance to delegates before and during the session:
 - Prepare invitation letters for visa requests for delegates and send them to the Swiss Embassy in corresponding countries;
 - Register each delegate in the Security Database to ensure their entry badge;
 - Process petrol cards for governmental delegates during the session;
 - Prepare list of participants with their coordinates and circulate them in the conference room.
- (vi) Other pre-session tasks:
 - Send information on forthcoming sessions and the provisional list of participants by e-mail to the Permanent Missions;
 - Update delegate's addresses in the Contact Database;
 - Report in IMDIS the list of official documents for the sessions;
 - Prepare statistical data on the number of documents (official and informal) and pages (official);
 - Maintain a filing system for documents and have available copies within the Division;
 - Answer e-mail enquiries.

(b) **Post-session tasks:**

- (i) Prepare (after each of the three sessions per year of WP.29, AC.1, AC.3 and AC.4):
 - The memos to OLA concerning the Depositary Notifications with required relevant information;
 - The notifications to Contracting Parties on the listing of technical regulations in the Compendium of Candidates or on the establishment of new UN GTRs in the Global Registry and circulate them to the Contracting Parties through the electronic notifications system;
 - As legal documents, the adopted proposals for amendments to existing UN regulations, update them when the Depositary Notifications are received from the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) and complete the document when the amendments and corrigenda are available on the website;
 - As legal documents, the amendments or Corrigenda adopted to existing UN regulations;
 - The consolidated legal documents of the UN Regulations (1958 Agreement), resolutions (i.e. S.R.1, R.E.3 and M.R.1¹⁷) and UN Rules (1997 Agreement) for publication, in English, including the layout and the proof-reading for public distribution.
 - (ii) Transmit electronically all documents adopted by AC.1 (1958) and AC.4 (1997) within the period in review to OLA for notification to the Contracting Parties.
 - (iii) Update, in a continuous manner, document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/343 reflecting the status of the 1958 Agreement and its UN Regulations annexed.
 - (iv) Record and file all legal communications received from OLA in New York and from Governments, and, if necessary, update the status document of the Agreement concerned.
 - (v) Provide the World Forum (WP.29) during its sessions with up-to-date information on the status of UN Regulations (1958 Agreement) and related information.
 - (vi) Download from the Optical Disk System (ODS) the French and Russian versions of the documents adopted and post them on the website.
 - (vii) Submit all post-session documents in iDRITS.
 - (viii) Ensure the availability of copies of all UN Regulations in force.
 - (ix) Assist the Chief of Section in coordinating the development of the Global Registry of UN GTRs, the Compendium of candidate GTRs and the communication system to the Contracting Parties.
 - (x) Convert the documents established by WP.29/AC.3 into legal documents of UN GTRs. Prepare and classify notifications to and from Contracting Parties related to UN GTRs.
 - (xi) Update versions of UN GTRs and make them promptly available to all interested users both in hard copies and on the websites.
- (c) **Other general tasks:**
- (i) Review all up-coming amendments to existing regulations and determine which figures (of low quality) need updating and add them to the list of requests.
 - (ii) Coordinate the review of consolidations by the officer in charge.
 - (iii) Prepare the documentation forecast and ensure the follow-up in IMDIS.
 - (iv) Respond to requests (including e-mail enquiries) and ensure the follow-up.
 - (v) Assist the Chief of the Section in various administrative tasks.

V. EVOLUTION 2012 – 2013

25. All UN regulations are constantly adapted to technical progress and materialize the political decisions of those Governments which are Contracting Parties to any of the three Agreements administered by the World Forum WP.29.

¹⁷ The text of the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3); the Special Resolution No. 1 concerning the common definitions of vehicle categories, masses and dimensions (S.R.1); and the Mutual Resolution No. 1 of the 1958 and the 1998 Agreements (M.R.1) are available at: www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29resolutions.html.

26. The evolution of the activities of the World Forum WP.29 during the last decade and the work performed by its secretariat may best be reflected on the basis of the following indicators (the numbers indicated in brackets below reflect the situation of the statistical data of 2012):

- (a) Total number (95) of Contracting Parties to the three Agreements in the field of vehicle construction and their periodical technical inspections: In 2012, only one new Contracting Party (Tajikistan) joined the 1998 Agreement and, in the first semester of 2013, one new Contracting Party (Egypt) acceded to the 1958 Agreement. In the case of the 1958 Agreement, the 51 Contracting Parties apply in total 5,325 UN Regulations, i.e. each Contracting Party applies about 104 UN Regulations of the total of 132 UN Regulations currently annexed to the Agreement.
- (b) The large number of participants in the sessions of WP.29, its Administrative (AC.1, AC.2, AC.4) and Executive (AC.3) Committees as well as its subsidiary Working Parties (total number of 2,060 participants in the official sessions): The World Forum convenes three sessions per year and the subsidiary Working Parties convene two sessions each. The Committees have restricted participation. In the Working Parties, the number of participants varied, in 2012, from 75 (GRE) to 154 (GRPE) participants per session.
- (c) The increasing number of new UN Regulations (+5 in 2012 and +1 in the first semester of 2013), new or amendments to existing Resolutions (+3), amendments to existing UN Regulations (+99) aimed at adapting the harmonized provisions to the technical progress. The 2 new UN Regulations on Pedestrian Safety (PS) and on Light Emitting Diode (LED) light sources (adopted in March 2012) entered into force in November 2012. All Contracting Parties (51) to the 1958 Agreement have already transposed or are in the process of transposing these new UN Regulations (except Japan in the case of UN Regulation on LED). The 3 new UN Regulations on Lane Departure Warning systems (LDW), Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) and on Enhanced Child Restraint Systems (ECRS) (adopted in November 2012) are expected to enter into force in July 2013.
- (d) The total number of final and legal documents (165 post-session documents with a total of 3,390 pages) demonstrating the predominant role of the World Forum in the field of legal instruments on vehicle construction.
- (e) The total number of official and informal documents (1659 pre-session documents in 2012) to be processed in an efficient and proper way by the secretariat. For 2012, the total number of pages of all legal, final and official documents reached 7,369 pages, i.e. a mean average of 920 pages were processed by each of the eight staff members.
- (f) Multiple new activities of WP.29 resulted in an increased number (+11 new groups in 2012) of additional informal working groups (total number of 58 in 2012) with a time limited mandate under WP.29 or its six subsidiary Working Parties.
- (g) The percentage of page-views of the WP.29 website and the number of file-downloads from the website (see also para. 31 below).
- (h) The number of articles published in the international press on UN regulations developed under the 3 Agreements administered by WP.29 show the high relevance of its activities (in 2012, of a total of 4,953 articles on UNECE activities, 991 or 20 per cent of all articles were linked to the work of WP.29).

27. Detailed statistical data on all these indicators for the decade 2002–2012 is presented in Annex II to this document which includes the January to December 2012 part of the evaluation cycle. The figures for the evaluation period January to June 2013 could only be partially included. Detailed statistical data is given on the number of participants in the official sessions of WP.29 and its subsidiary Working Parties which have permanent mandates, and also in the informal working groups which have time limited mandates. Data is also given on the pre-, in- and post-session documents (official, informal and legal), numbers of pages (official and legal) prepared by the secretariat for consideration by the World Forum of the UN Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement, the GTRs established in the Global Registry under the 1998 Agreement and UN Rules annexed to the 1997 Agreement, and the VTRIS staff members involved in the preparation of documentation and servicing WP.29 sessions.

28. In spite of the current economic constraints and reduced travel budgets for delegates, the number of participants attending the sessions was maintained during the period 2012 to 2013 due to further accessions of new Contracting Parties to the three Agreements administered by WP.29 and the importance for Contracting Parties of the new UN regulations and the amendments to existing UN regulations submitted by the Working Parties subsidiary to WP.29.

29. The WP.29 website offers free access to the legal instruments and to all documents of the World Forum, its Working Parties and informal groups. Delegates attending the sessions highly appreciate this internet access and

consider the availability of all documents as essential for efficient and transparent discussions and, eventually, the adoption of new technical requirements. The WP.29 website is one of the most frequently visited sites of the UNECE website. The annexed statistical data shows the repartition of page-views¹⁸ of the WP.29 websites and downloads of files for the period March to September 2012. The status document "ECE/TRANS/WP.29/343/Rev.20 of the 1958 Agreement" had the highest number of downloads. In 2012, UNECE published a revised version of its Blue Book, "WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS (WP.29), HOW IT WORKS, HOW TO JOIN IT".¹⁹ This publication presents a view of WP.29 beginning with a brief history from its inception as a regional forum through to its transformation into a world forum. The principal intent of this document is to present the organizational structure and operational process of WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies and their relationship to specific multinational agreements under the United Nations auspices. It also describes the three agreements on vehicle regulations (construction of new vehicles and periodical technical inspection of vehicles in use). The document is available in the six official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) at: www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29pub.html.

30. The increasing number of UN Regulations, GTRs and Rules already into force generates an increasing number of amendments and some Contracting Parties prefer to rely on consolidated versions of UN regulations justifying the increasing volume of documents —these result in an ever increasing workload for the secretariat. The procedure for the development of GTRs under the 1998 Agreement and also of their amendments require additional documentation supporting the development (proposal, progress and final reports, a preamble or rational, etc.). The volume of pre-session, in-session and post-session documents processed in 2010 and 2011 (~700 official documents with a total of ~4,500 pages and ~1,200 informal documents) limited of the capacity of the secretariat and resulted in 2011 and 2012 in a backlog in the finalization of mainly post-session documents. To cope with this backlog, the World Forum invited the secretariat on multiple occasions to reinforce the staff members of VRTIS servicing WP.29 (see reports ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1093, paras. 4 and 5, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1095, paras. 4 and 24.). Unfortunately, the number of staff members has been reduced as a result of the general budgetary cuts in the United Nations.

31. The significant increase in the number and size of official and informal documents, the increasing administrative tasks generated by the 1998 Agreement and the increasing number of informal working groups resulted in additional tasks for the secretariat. In 2011, VRTIS initiated the development of a new platform that provides a working environment for Chairs and Secretaries of the informal working groups as external users (external to the United Nations systems). Thus, they can edit existing web pages, create new pages for new meetings, upload the relevant working papers and can include a description for each document uploaded. At the beginning of 2012, a new website server was set up using "Confluence", a software which allows external users to create and collaboratively edit web pages via a web browser. The web pages created in this environment are accessible from the conventional homepage of the UNECE website. The World Forum WP.29 presented the new procedure at its June 2012 session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1097, para. 13) and since 15 July 2012, all working papers for the meetings of the informal working groups of WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies have been uploaded via the new UNECE website server (see informal documents WP.29-157-15-Rev.2 and WP.29-157-24). Accordingly, the working papers uploaded by the Chairs and Secretaries of the 45 informal working groups are no longer in the statistics annexed to this report.

32. Unfortunately, VRTIS has not been reinforced by any additional staff. The attempt by UNECE decision makers to offer assistance from other Sections of the Transport Division or even other UNECE Divisions has been welcomed but resulted in a very limited assistance due to the lack of vehicle expertise among other staff members and the high complexity of technical matters dealt with by VRTIS. Nevertheless, VRTIS staff responded, further to the simplification of the administrative procedures mentioned in paragraph 31, with additional working hours to cover the backlogs in finalizing the UN regulations. These efforts have highly been appreciated by the World Forum and its subsidiary bodies (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1093, para. 6).

33. The decision by the UNECE decision makers on preparing only the English versions (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1091, paras. 3 and 17) of all official and legal documents (the French and Russian versions are dealt with by DMS and the translators) provided the way for the necessary reduction in backlogs on preparing the legal documents. However, this caused delays in the translation process of a number of new UN Regulations and numerous amendments to existing UN Regulations. As a counter effect, it resulted in a delay in the date of entry into force as OLA can only conclude the notification procedure when all 3 versions (E,F,R) of the legal documents are available. In the past, VRTIS staff members also prepared the French version of the legal documents and, in the same process, verified the technical consistency between the original English and the French versions. As VRTIS no longer prepares the French version, there is also a risk that the number of corrigenda will increase.

¹⁸ "Page-view" means multiple views of the same page (more than 100,000 per month for the WP.29 websites), i.e. neither unique page-views nor downloads of documents are included in this statistical data. These are treated separately.

¹⁹ See www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29gen/wp29pub.html and para. 22.

34. At its June 2013 session, WP.29 highly welcomed the decision by UNECE on the review of its reform that two additional posts (P4 and P2) be allocated primarily to VRTIS for servicing WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies. This decision had been adopted by UNECE at its plenary session in April 2013 (ECE Decisions A(65), para. 31(b)).

VI. FUTURE NEW TASKS OF VRTIS

35. Even with the allocation of these two posts, the workload of WP.29's future new activities will be challenging since a large number of new activities have been announced:

- (a) From the objectives of Revision 3 to the 1958 Agreement, the secretariat is to:
 - (i) Develop and maintain the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system, including the development and adoption of a new framework Regulation No. 0 (universal and flexible scheme);
 - (ii) Make the former versions of UN Regulations available on the WP.29 website and/or on the Optical Disk System (ODS) if they are applied by Contracting Parties. Updating would also be required;
 - (iii) Host and administrate the Database for the Exchange of Type Approval documentation (DETA);
 - (iv) Cope with an increasing workload expected from an increasing interest in the 1958 Agreement by countries with emerging economies and developing countries;
 - (v) Cope with an increasing number of notifications issued at the national level of requirements for the flexible IWVTA scheme;
 - (vi) Host the evaluation tool that lists the level of national requirements for the universal and flexible IWVTA scheme (frequent updating required);
 - (vii) Administer the establishment of new informal groups;
 - (viii) Review all UN Regulations on a simplified type approval marking/review relevant publications, etc.
- (b) In November 2011, the then UNECE Executive Secretary (Mr. J. Kubis) underlined the crucial role of WP.29 in the framework of the third pillar of the Global Plan of Action for Road Safety in the area of safer vehicles. At the same session, the representative of Japan gave a presentation on his country's efforts to promote the accession of countries in the Asian region to the 1958 Agreement. It was underlined that China, India, Republic of Korea and other Asian countries regularly participate in the work of the World Forum. The representative of South Africa reported on the acting role of its delegation in promoting the use of UN Regulations by African countries and fostering their accession to the 1958 Agreement. WP.29 also noted that the Group on the Harmonization of Motor Vehicle Regulations of South African Development Community (SADC), joined with the other regional bodies of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and East African Community (EAC) to be part of the Tripartite Group on the Harmonization of Motor Vehicle Regulations (see footnote 12) with a total of 26 country members. With the upcoming revision of the 1958 Agreement, regional bodies could possibly consider being represented either by their own regional body (COMESA, EAC, SADC), or as a combined tripartite group if representatives of member States of the Tripartite Group are not able to participate in WP.29 sessions.
- (c) At the same session, WP.29 noted that the "Fédération Européenne de la Manutention" announced their intention to incorporate special provisions for mobile cranes into some UN Regulations. The request was linked to the general European Union approach of replacing technical directives by direct reference to UN Regulations. For the time being, most of the UN Regulations do not cover Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM). The introduction of NRMM into the UN Regulations would increase the workload of the World Forum and its secretariat. The representative of the EU informed the Committee WP.29/AC.2 that the inclusion of provisions for NRMM in the UN Regulations had been emphasized at the European Commission and was under consideration.
- (d) Delegates from the Gulf Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC) recently participated in the sessions of subsidiary bodies of WP.29 and showed interest in acceding to the Agreements administered by WP.29.
- (e) The representative of the EU introduced the Action Plan for a competitive and sustainable automotive industry in Europe (WP.29-158-30). He added that this Action Plan was based on four pillars: investing in

advanced technologies and financing innovation; improving market conditions; enhancing global competitiveness; and investing in human capital and skills and softening the social impacts of restructuring. He underlined the importance of promoting the internationalization of the vehicle industry, the reciprocal effective access to markets and the harmonization of vehicle regulations. Accordingly, he proposed to focus on:

- (i) Intensifying further international harmonization of vehicle regulations including the revision of the UN 1958 Agreement;
- (ii) Accommodating the needs of emerging economies;
- (iii) Mutually recognizing IWVTA; and
- (iv) Inviting all experts to strengthen participation in the subsidiary bodies of WP.29 dealing with the improvement of the environmental and safety performance of road vehicles (e.g. CO₂ targets for cars and vans, emissions, electric vehicles, hydrogen vehicles, e-call, safety-belt reminder).

VII. CONCLUSIONS

36. The UN Regulations and GTRs developed in the framework of the 1958 and 1998 Agreements have contributed to improving safety and environmental performance of vehicles. These results have also been reflected in the European statistics on road traffic safety: while road traffic has tripled in the past 30 years, the number of people killed annually in road accidents has been reduced by half.

37. The continuous adaptation of the performance requirements specified in the regulations has drastically reduced the pollutant emissions limits (CO, HC, NO_x and particulates) for new motor vehicles for both petrol and diesel engines. As compared to the emission limits established in 1970, the emission limits of CO, HC and NO_x are more than 30 times lower. The particulates emission limits are about 20 times lower than the 1990 limits.

38. The European Union renewed its procedure to develop technical requirements within their EU Directives by replacing a number of them with a reference to UN Regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement as a basis for EU legislation. The World Forum WP.29 is, thus, de facto the unique and universally recognized body for establishing worldwide harmonized technical requirements for new vehicles and for harmonized rules for the periodical technical inspections of vehicle in service.

39. VRTIS is the section of the UNECE secretariat servicing WP.29. It is a small (a total of 7.5 staff members), but efficient team continuously optimizing the organization of its tasks by reviewing and simplifying, wherever possible, the administrative procedures. In 2011, the mean number of document/pages performed by each staff member reached more than 85 official documents or more than 550 pages per staff member.

40. According to the statistical data in Annex 2 to this document, the staff is confronted with a continuously increasing workload, due to new technical areas needing regulation and further accessions of new Contracting Parties to the three Agreements. This, in turn, results in an increased participation of delegations in the sessions and the development of new regulations and rules under the 1958, 1998 and 1997 Agreements.

41. Noting the backlogs in the finalization of the legal documents and the related delay in the entry into force of these documents, the World Forum stressed, at multiple occasions, the crucial need to reinforce the staff of VRTIS. WP.29 also noted that the backlogs have been offset mainly by overtime from VRTIS staff members. This effort increased efficiency in supporting the World Forum WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies. The efficiency of the secretariat servicing the World Forum WP.29 is by far one of the highest of all UN secretariats (in terms of annual sessions/meetings and the number of documents/pages).

42. Nevertheless, and in spite of the high quality of the current secretariat staff members, the World Forum considered that the secretariat needed to be reinforced. The World Forum representatives explained the situation to the hierarchy of their national governments, and inspired the decision by ECE to allocate two additional Professional posts. At its June 2013 session, WP.29 welcomed this decision by ECE at its session in April 2013 (9-11 April 2013).

43. This proves the high effectiveness and efficiency of the secretariat servicing the World Forum. WP.29 agrees with this statement and repeatedly highlighted its appreciation of the competence and the dedication of the secretariat staff members. This appreciation is reflected in the report of its 155th session (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1093, paras. 4 to 10, REPRODUCED IN Annex I to this document).

ANNEX I

EXCERPT OF THE REPORT NOVEMBER 2011 SESSION (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1093)

"II. Opening statements made during the session

2. The Executive Secretary of the UNECE welcomed the participants and confirmed the high importance of the World Forum for the UNECE. He underlined that the worldwide relevance of WP.29 was recently confirmed by the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial declaration at its seventh session, which strongly encouraged economies to participate in the World Forum WP.29. The Executive Secretary stressed the crucial role of WP.29 in the framework of the third pillar of the Global Plan of Action for Road Safety concerning safer vehicles.

3. The Executive Secretary welcomed the decision of the World Forum to amend the 1958 Agreement to make it more attractive for emerging economies and to insert the international whole vehicle type approval concept. He also welcomed the completion of the 1997 Agreement through the recent adoption of Rule No. 2 on roadworthiness and further underlined the need to define the future of the Agreement. He expressed his wish that new UN Global Technical Regulations (UN GTRs) on innovative technologies would be incorporated into the programme of work of the 1998 Agreement, especially the development of UN GTRs on electric vehicles and on the audibility of quiet road transport vehicles.

4. The vice-Chair of the World Forum underlined the social, political and economic importance of the work of the World Forum. As a fact, he reminded WP.29 that they, in fact, adopted more than 100 amendments annually, adapting the current 138 vehicle regulations to technical progress. He stressed the need to have on time, the amendments in the three authentic languages of the amendments to allow the Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) to issue the Depository Notifications for the entry into force of the new regulations and their amendments. He informed the Executive Secretary that more details regarding this important issue would be addressed to him through a letter by the Chair and himself. He explained that, in the framework of the review of the UNECE reform, the administration of the three Agreements cannot be reduced as it depends not on the secretariat of the UNECE, but on the political needs of Contracting Parties and of technical progress. He added that, for the required efficiency of the World Forum, its secretariat should be given absolute priority to perform the tasks of WP.29.

5. The representative of the United States of America (US) stated that for his country the World Forum in general and the 1998 Agreement in particular, had a very high value for developing Global Technical Regulations for Vehicle. He recalled the position of his government preferring to concentrate the efforts in WP.29, currently situated in UNECE, instead of creating new regional organizations for developing vehicle regulations. Furthermore, he stated that resource reduction within the secretariat may impact mission essential functions of the 1998 Agreement and urged the Executive Secretary to consider this in future decision-making.

6. The representative of the European Union (EU) confirmed the trust of his organization in the work of the World Forum demonstrated by the direct application of the UN Regulations in the legislation of the EU. He pleaded for maintaining the high level of quality and efficiency by the secretariat.

7. The representative of Japan supported the positions of the US and the EU. He added that Japan had participated in the work of World Forum for more than 20 years and had dedicated huge quantities of resources. He affirmed the high political, social and economic importance for his country of the work of WP.29. Finally, he explained Japan's activities in the Asian region aiming at promoting the accession of its countries to the 1958 Agreement.

He reminded WP.29 that China, India, Korea and other Asian countries regularly participated in the work of the World Forum.

8. The representative of France stressed the importance of the revision of the UNECE reform and expressed the valuable results of the World Forum for his country. He further expressed the need to have an adequate notification system for the regulatory work of the World Forum, including the translations of the authentic versions of the Agreements.

9. The President of OICA underlined that the automotive industry was facing technological challenges regarding environment and safety, among them the development of electric vehicles. He added that WP.29 was a crucial platform for vehicle manufacturers and their suppliers to develop in time the necessary legal framework to allow the introduction of innovative technologies into the market. He offered the full support of OICA to the World Forum.

10. The Executive Secretary expressed his appreciation for the comments received and expressed his hope that, in the current process of the review of the UNECE reform, the essential role of the World Forum would not only be reconfirmed but reinforced. He indicated that improvement of the conditions for an efficient notification system would be carefully considered. Finally, he expressed his appreciation to the WP.29 secretariat for its expertise and performance."

ANNEX II

STATISTICS (2002–2012) OF THE WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS (WP.29)

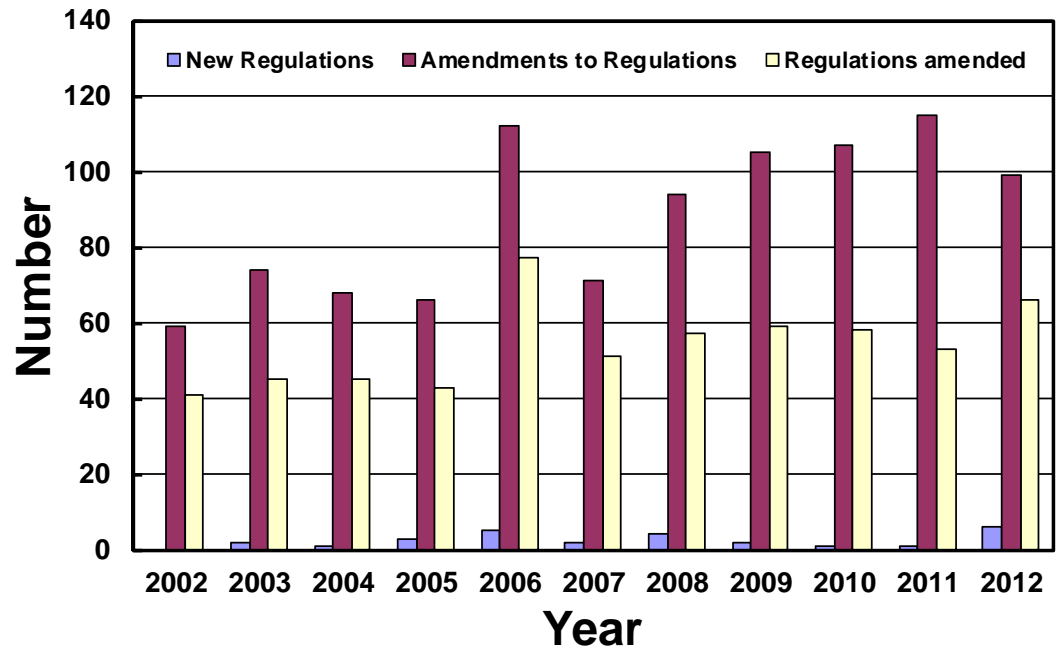
1. This annex contains the statistics on the activities of the secretariat servicing to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), covering the period 2002-2012.
2. The statistical data focuses on the number of new vehicle regulations and their amendments, the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the three Agreements, the number of delegates and the number of countries participating in the sessions and the documentation of the World Forum, its 6 subsidiary Working Parties with a permanent mandate, and of its 45 informal working groups with specific and time limited mandates.
3. The statistical data on the documents wearing an official symbol (working, final and legal¹ documents) refers to the number of documents and the total number of pages, while only the number of informal documents is reflected
4. A continued increase has been noted in the number of new regulations and their amendments (78 per cent in the period) adopted by WP.29, with a peak in 2006 and another in 2011 (see page 16).
5. A considerable increase was seen in the number of CPs to the Agreements, from 69 to 95 (+37 per cent) during the period (page 17). Efforts are being reinforced to increase CPs from Asia, Africa, Gulf Countries and South America to the 1958, 1998 and 1997 Agreements.
6. The number of member States and of delegates represented annually in the sessions remained stable (around 2,000 delegates) (pages 18 to 21).
7. Pages 22 to 31 contain statistics on the documents prepared by the VRTIS staff, grouped by:
 - Post-session documents: number of final and legal documents;
 - Pre- and in-session documents: number of official and informal documents of WP.29 and its Working Parties.
8. Pages 32 and 33 show the consolidated total documents, with evolution by year. From 2002 to 2012, the total number of documents increased by 117 per cent in spite of the introduction in 2004 of a simplification system to reduce the number of final documents. For the same period, the number of pages increased by 39 per cent. The average number of pages in the 597 official documents was 14.3 pages in 2009, 8.5 for 709 documents in 2010, 12.8 for 696 in 2011 and 14.1 for 522 documents in 2012.
9. Pages 34 and 35 show the number of informal working groups subsidiary to WP.29 and its Working Parties as well as the evolution in the number of VRTIS staff.
10. Finally, the number of articles published in the international press on WP.29 activities is shown on page 36 and some figures on downloads from and page-views of the WP.29 website are shown on pages 37 and 38.

¹ Official documents are documents considered by WP.29 and its 6 GRs and include agendas and reports. Final documents are documents adopted by WP.29 outside the legal framework of the Agreements. Legal documents are documents linked to the legal instruments administered by WP.29 (regulations and Agreements).

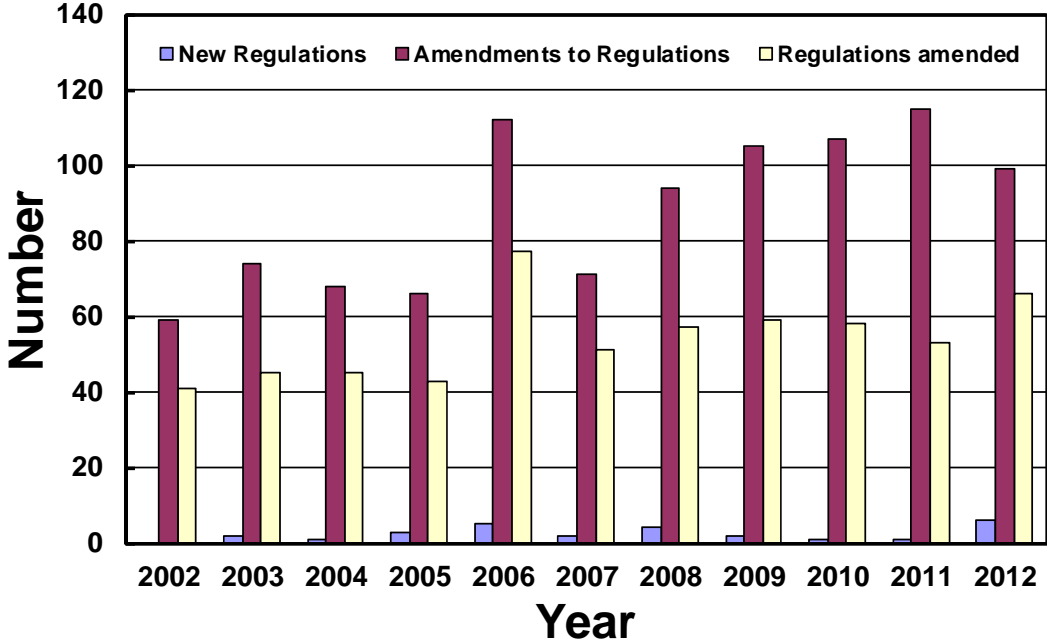
WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS
(Period 2002–2012)

Regulations and amendments adopted by WP.29											
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
New Regulations	0	2	1	3	5	2	4	2	1	1	6
Amendments to Regulations	59	74	68	66	112	71	94	105	107	115	99
Regulations amended	41	45	45	43	77	51	57	59	58	53	66
Resolutions adopted/amended			1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
Regulations listed in the Compendium				9	0	0	1	0	7	1	2

WP.29 Regulations & Amendments

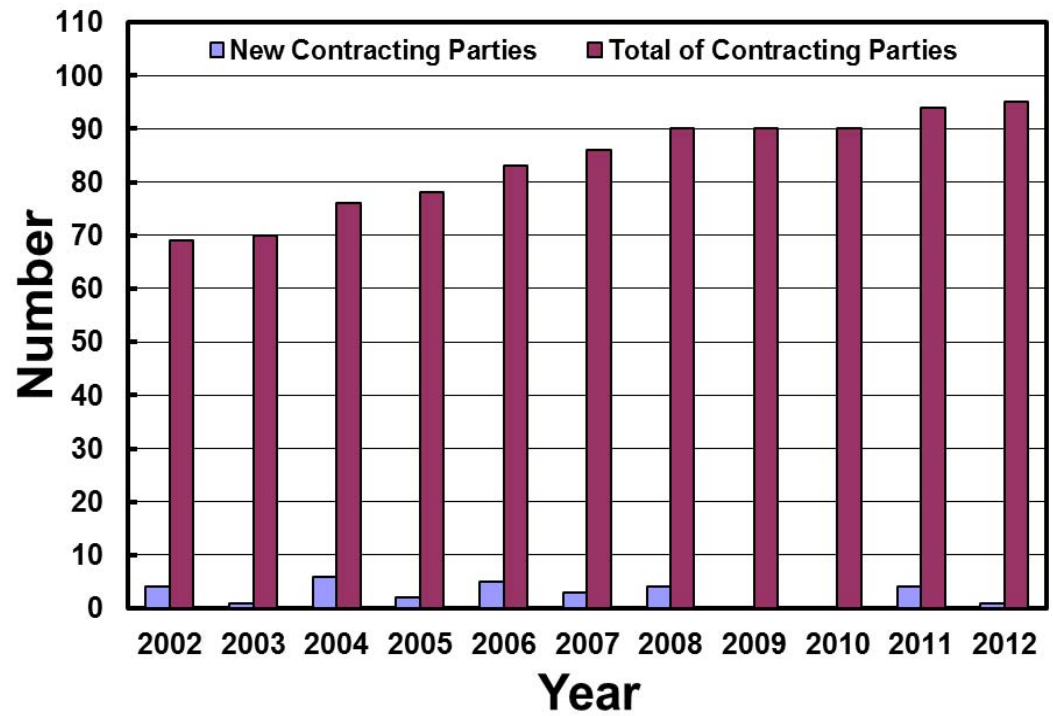


WP.29 Regulations & Amendments



Contracting Parties to the 3 Agreements administered by WP.29											
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of new Contracting Parties	4	1	6	2	5	3	4	0	0	4	1
Total of Contracting Parties	69	70	76	78	83	86	90	90	90	94	95

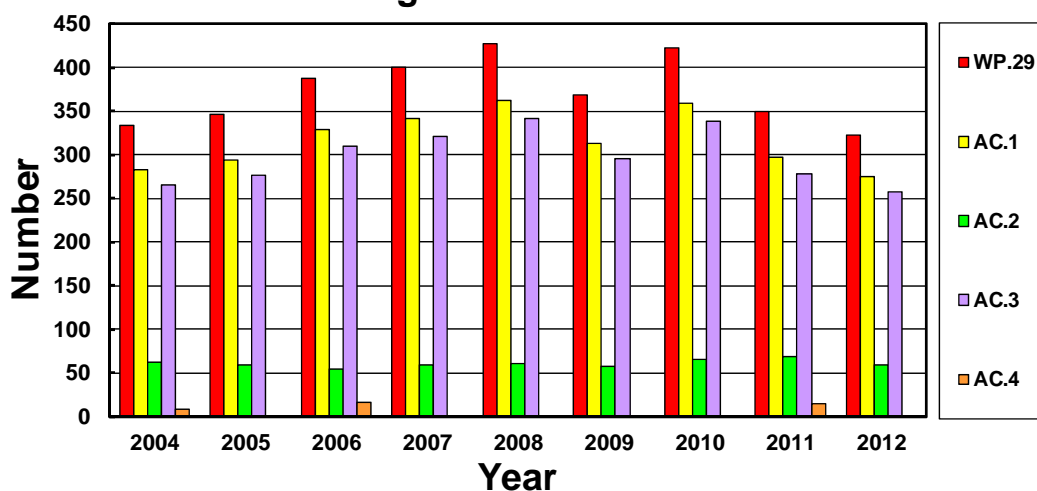
Evolution of the number of Contracting Parties



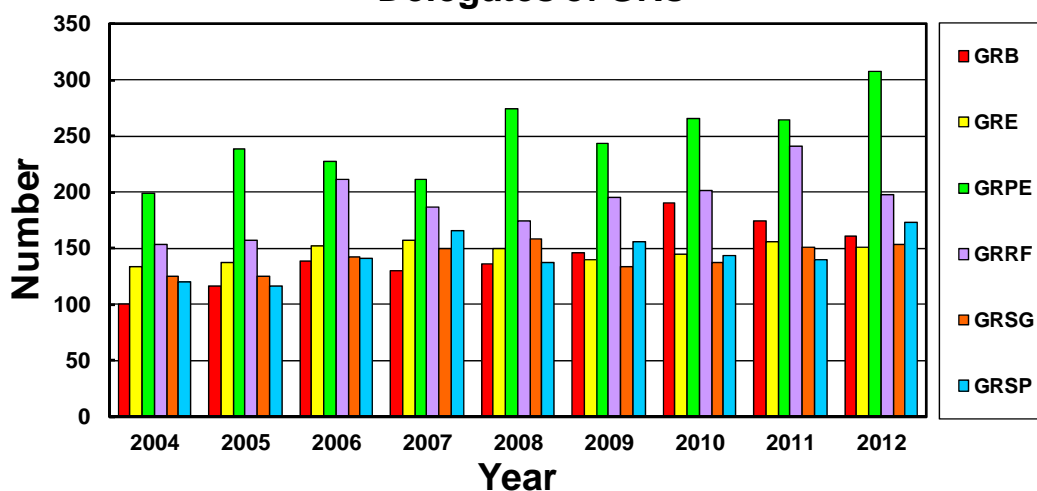
Number of delegates participating in the sessions									
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
WP.29	333	346	387	401	428	369	422	349	323
GRB	100	117	139	130	136	146	190	174	161
GRE	134	138	152	157	150	140	145	156	151
GRPE	199	238	227	211	274	244	266	264	308
GRRF	154	157	211	187	175	195	201	241	198
GRSG	125	125	142	150	158	134	138	151	153
GRSP	120	117	141	166	137	156	143	140	173
AC.1	283	294	329	341	363	313	359	297	275
AC.2	62	60	55	59	61	57	66	69	60
AC.3	266	277	310	321	342	295	338	279	258
AC.4	9	0	16	0	0	0	0	15	0
Total	1,785	1,869	2,109	2,123	2,224	2,049	2,268	2,120	2,060

Note by the secretariat: WP.29, AC.1, AC.2, AC.3, and AC.4 normally meet 3 times per year. GRs meet twice per year. UNECE TD staff member not included.

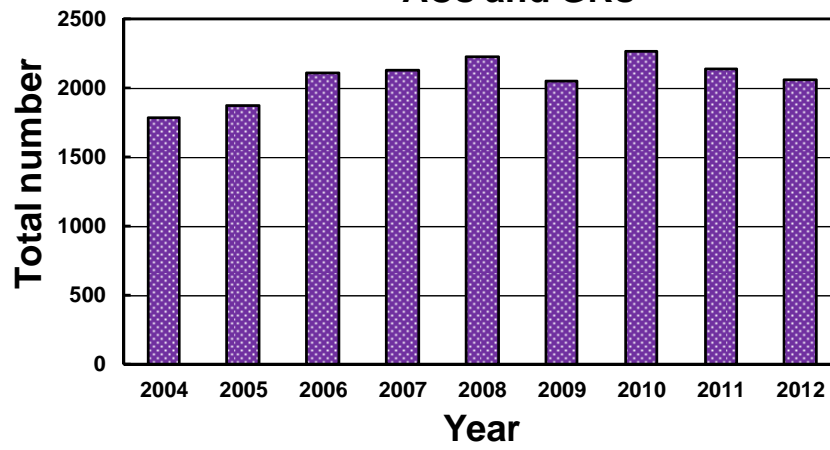
Delegates of WP.29 & ACs



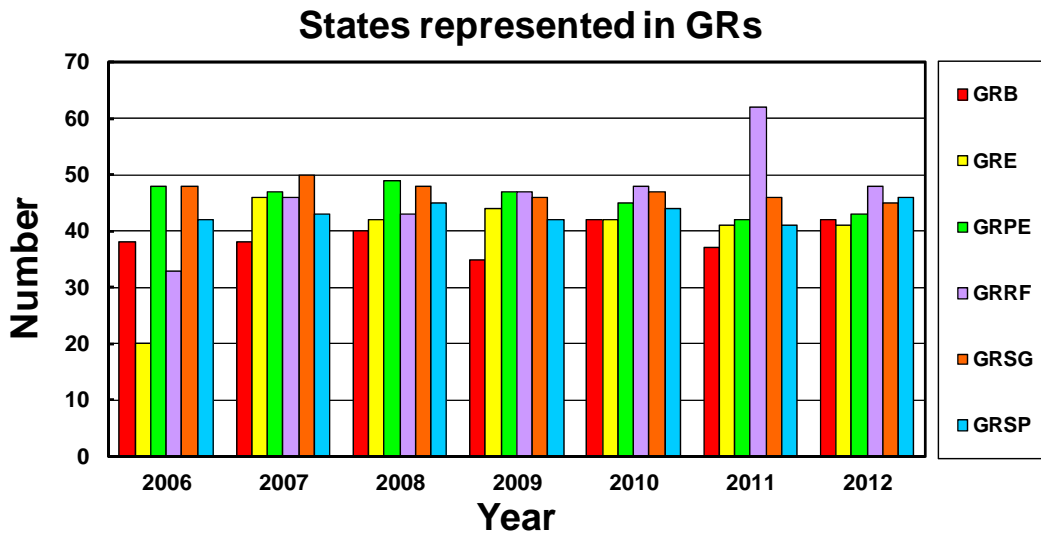
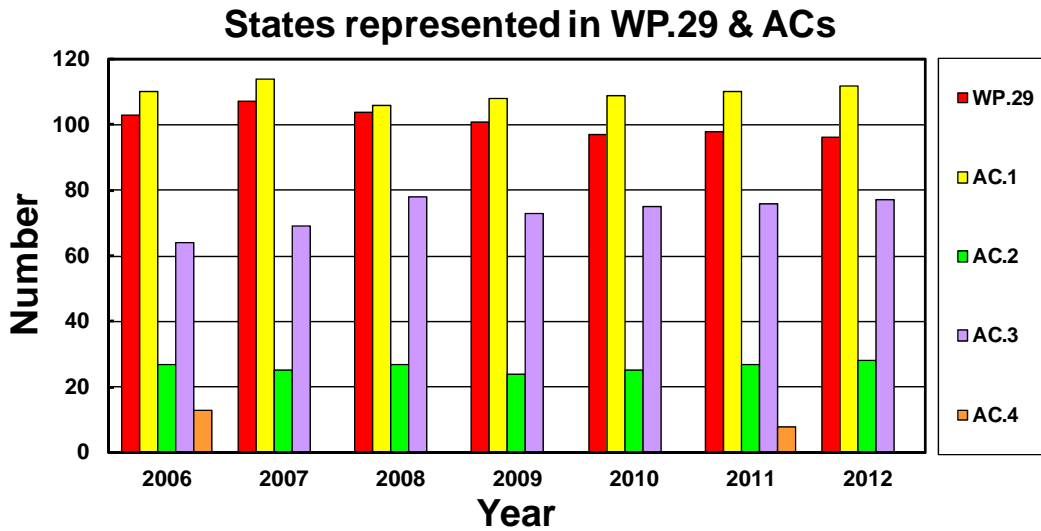
Delegates of GRs



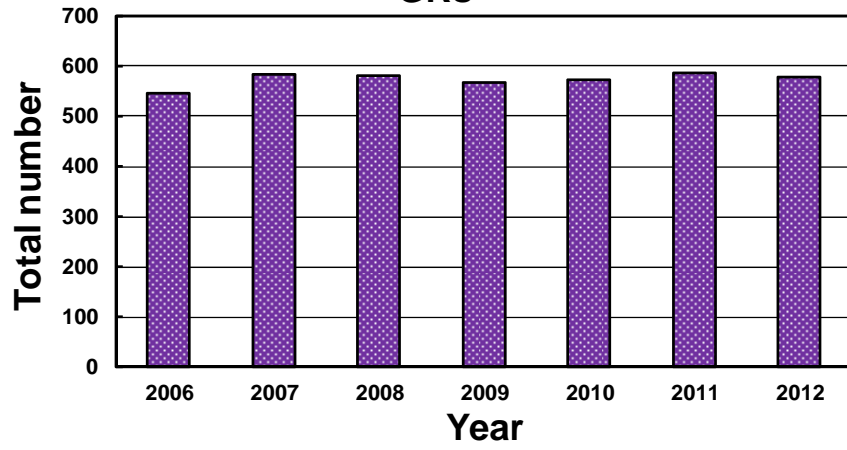
Total number of delegates in WP.29, ACs and GRs



States represented in WP.29 and its GRs							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
WP.29	103	107	104	101	97	98	96
GRB	38	38	40	35	42	37	42
GRE	20	46	42	44	42	41	41
GRPE	48	47	49	47	45	42	43
GRRF	33	46	43	47	48	62	48
GRSG	48	50	48	46	47	46	45
GRSP	42	43	45	42	44	41	46
AC.1	110	114	106	108	109	110	112
AC.2	27	25	27	24	25	27	28
AC.3	64	69	78	73	75	76	77
AC.4	13	0	0	0	0	8	0
Total	546	585	582	567	574	580	578



States represented in WP.29, ACs & GRs



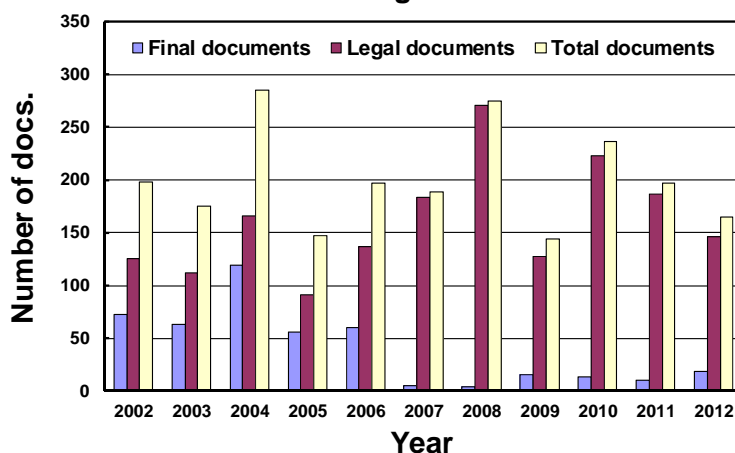
Documentation of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

A. Final and legal documents

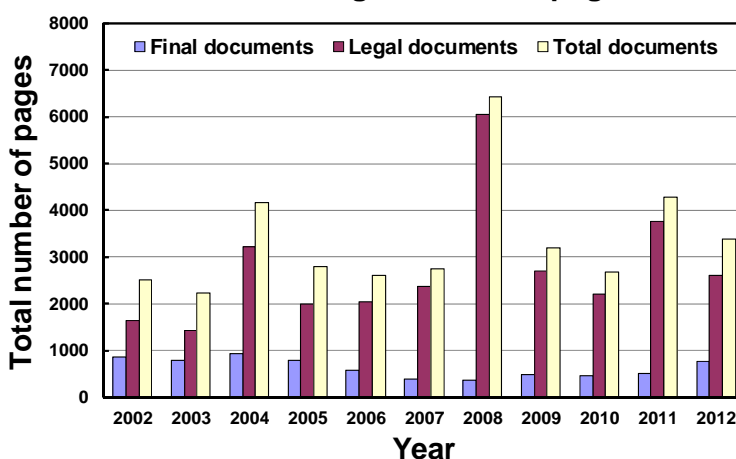
WP.29 Session (year):	Final documents:		Legal documents:		Legal and final documents:	
	Number of docs.	Number of pages	Number of docs.	Number of pages	Number of docs.	Number of pages
2002	73	875	125	1 644	198	2 519
2003	63	788	112	1 441	175	2 229
2004	119	944	166	3 222	285	4 166
2005	56	801	91	2 002	147	2 803
2006	60	576	137	2 035	197	2 611
2007	5	390	184	2 370	189	2 760
2008	4	370	271	6 047	275	6 417
2009	16	497	128	2 704	141	3 201
2010	13	461	223	2 220	236	2 681
2011	10	517	187	3 773	197	4 290
2012	19	783	146	2 607	165	3,390

Note: After 2004, a simplification system aimed at drastically reducing the number of final documents had been introduced.

WP.29 Final & Legal documents



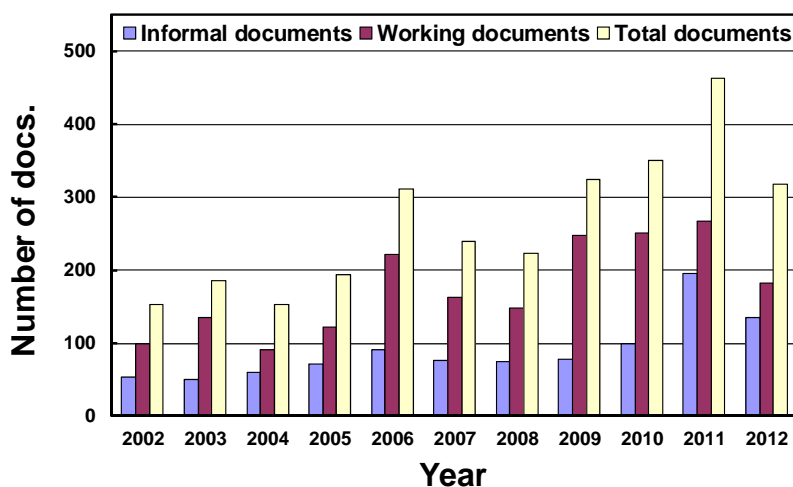
WP.29 Final & Legal document pages



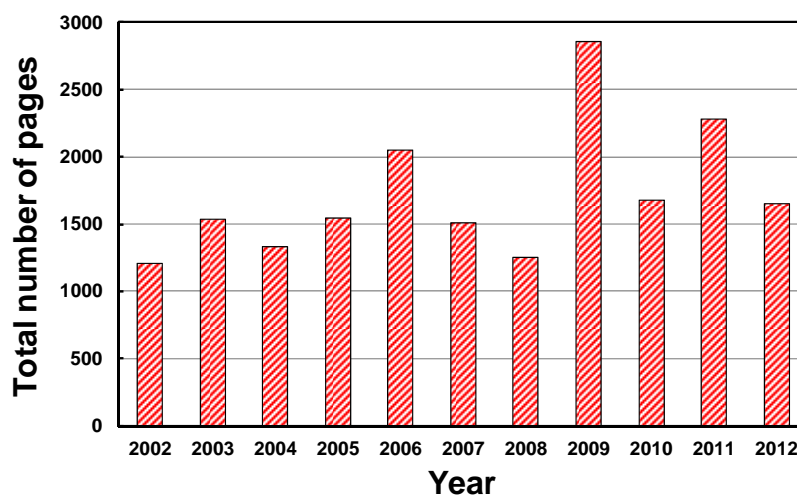
B. Working Documents (WP.29 and informal groups)

WP.29 Session (year):	Informal documents:	Official documents:		Informal and Official documents:
	Number of docs.	Number of docs.	Number of pages	Number of docs.
126 th , 127 th , 128 th (2002)	54	99	1 202	153
129 th , 130 th , 131 st (2003)	51	135	1 536	186
132 nd , 133 rd , 134 th (2004)	61	92	1 325	153
135 th , 136 th , 137 th (2005)	71	123	1 538	194
138 th , 139 th , 140 th (2006)	91	221	2 044	312
141 st , 142 nd , 143 rd (2007)	77	163	1 505	240
144 th , 145 th , 146 th (2008)	75	148	1 248	223
147 th , 148 th , 149 th (2009)	78	247	2 855	325
150 th , 151 st , 152 nd (2010)	100	251	1 673	351
153 rd , 154 th , 155 th (2011)	196	236	2 147	432
156 th , 157 th , 158 th (2012)	136	150	1 500	286

WP.29 Informal & Official documents



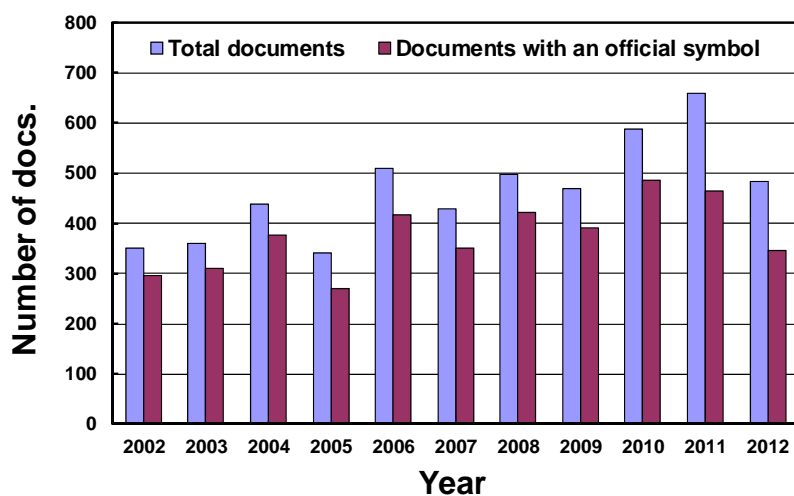
WP.29 Official document pages



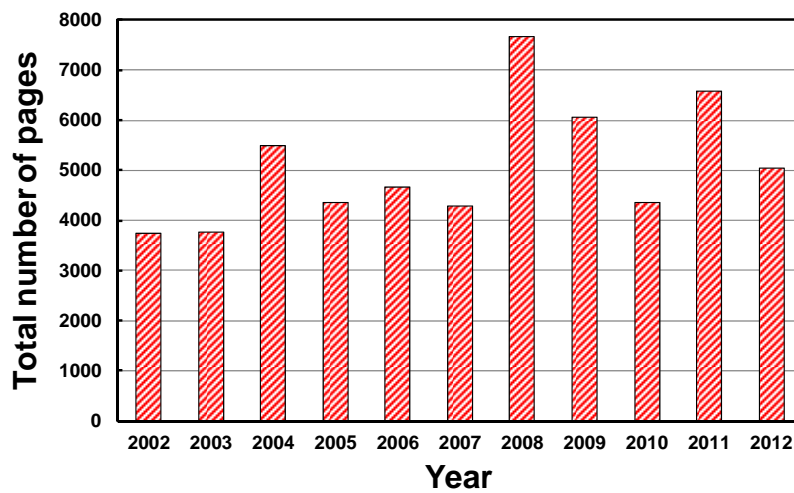
C. Total number of WP.29 documents (A+B)

WP.29 Session (year):	Official documents		Informal documents
	Number of documents	Number of pages	
126 th , 127 th , 128 th (2002)	297	3 721	54
129 th , 130 th , 131 st (2003)	310	3 765	51
132 nd , 133 rd , 134 th (2004)	377	5 491	61
135 th , 136 th , 137 th (2005)	270	4 341	71
138 th , 139 th , 140 th (2006)	418	4 655	91
141 st , 142 nd , 143 rd (2007)	352	4 265	77
144 th , 145 th , 146 th (2008)	423	7 665	75
147 th , 148 th , 149 th (2009)	391	6 056	78
150 th , 151 st , 152 nd (2010)	487	4 354	100
153 rd , 154 th , 155 th (2011)	464	6 570	196
156 th , 157 th , 158 th (2012)	347	5 034	136

WP.29 Total documents



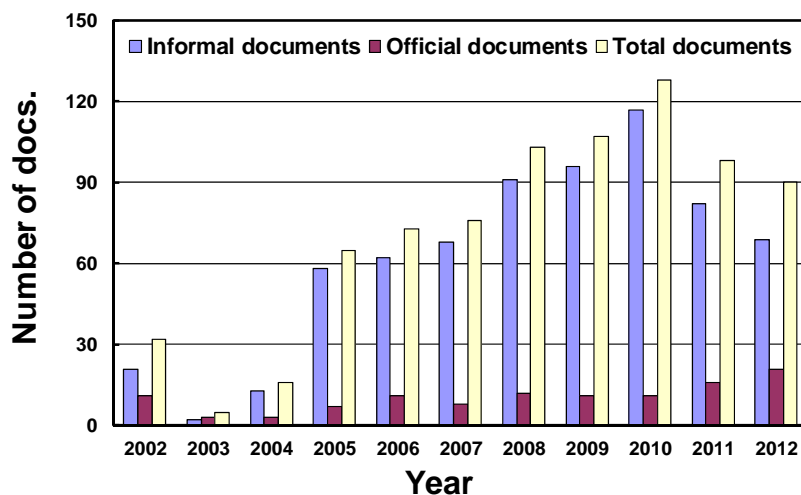
WP.29 Total document pages



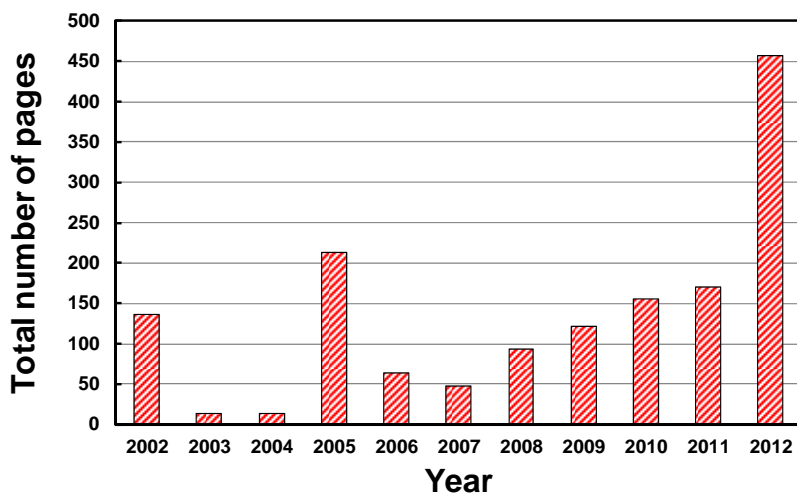
Documentation of the Working Parties

Working Party on Noise and its informal groups				
GRB	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
36 th , 37 th (2002)	21	11	32	136
38 th (2003)	2	3	5	13
39 th , 40 th (2004)	13	3	16	13
41 st , 42 nd (2005)	58	7	65	212
43 rd , 44 th (2006)	62	11	73	63
45 th , 46 th (2007)	68	8	76	47
47 th , 48 th (2008)	91	12	103	93
49 th , 50 th (2009)	96	12	107	122
51 st , 52 nd (2010)	117	12	128	156
53 rd , 54 th (2011)	82	16	98	170
55 th , 56 th (2012)	69	21	90	456

GRB Informal & Official documents

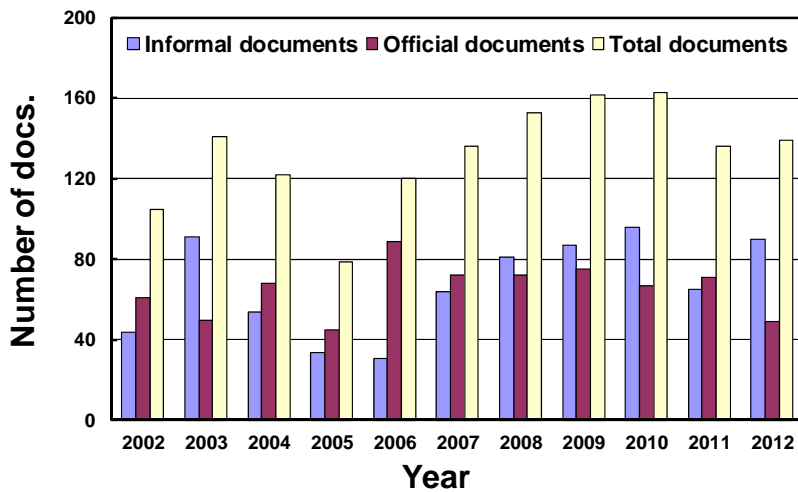


GRB Official documents pages

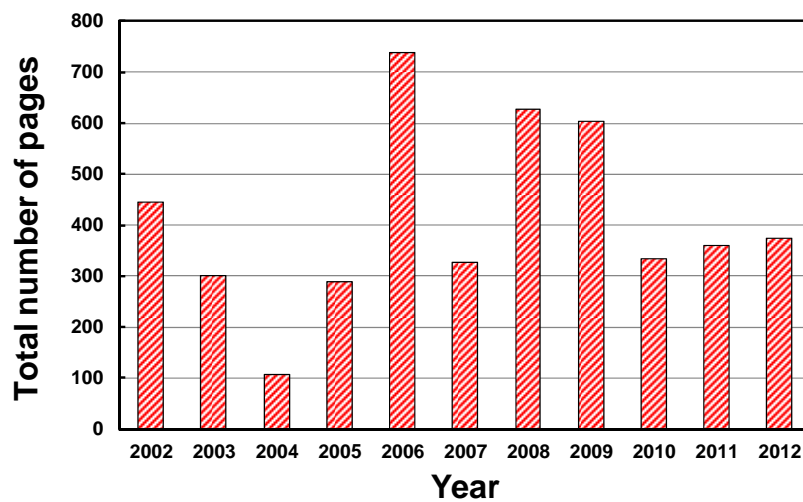


Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling and its informal groups				
GRE	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
48 th , 49 th (2002)	44	61	105	443
50 th , 51 st (2003)	91	50	141	300
52 nd , 53 th (2004)	54	68	122	105
54 th , 55 th (2005)	34	45	79	288
56 th (2006)	31	89	120	737
57 th , 58 th (2007)	64	72	136	325
59 th , 60 th (2008)	81	72	153	625
61 st , 62 nd (2009)	87	75	162	602
63 rd , 64 th (2010)	96	67	163	334
65 th , 66 th (2011)	65	71	136	358
67 th , 68 th (2012)	90	49	139	372

GRE Informal & Official documents

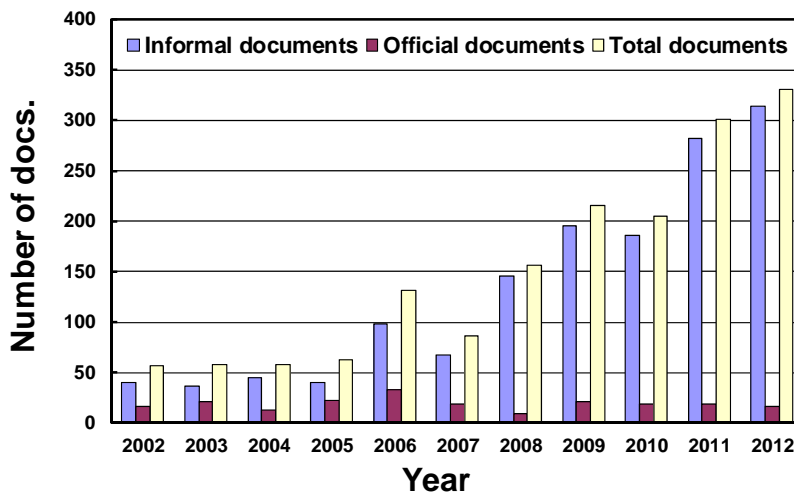


GRE Official documents pages

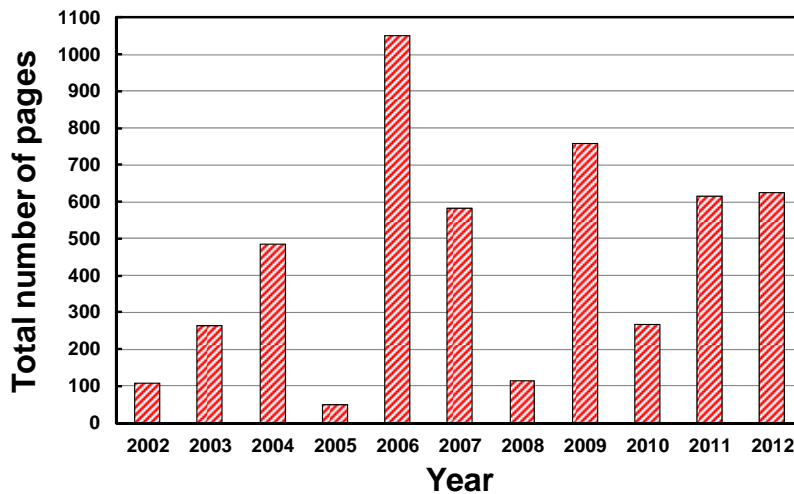


Working Party on Pollution and Energy and its informal groups				
GRPE	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
43 rd , 44 th (2002)	40	17	57	108
45 th , 46 th (2003)	37	21	58	261
47 th , 48 th (2004)	45	13	58	483
49 th , 50 th (2005)	40	23	63	47
51 st , 52 nd (2006)	98	33	131	1 049
53 rd , 54 th (2007)	67	19	86	581
55 th , 56 th (2008)	146	10	156	114
57 th , 58 th (2009)	195	21	216	757
59 th , 60 th (2010)	186	19	205	267
61 st , 62 nd (2011)	282	19	301	615
63 rd , 64 th (2012)	314	17	331	625

GRPE Informal & Official documents

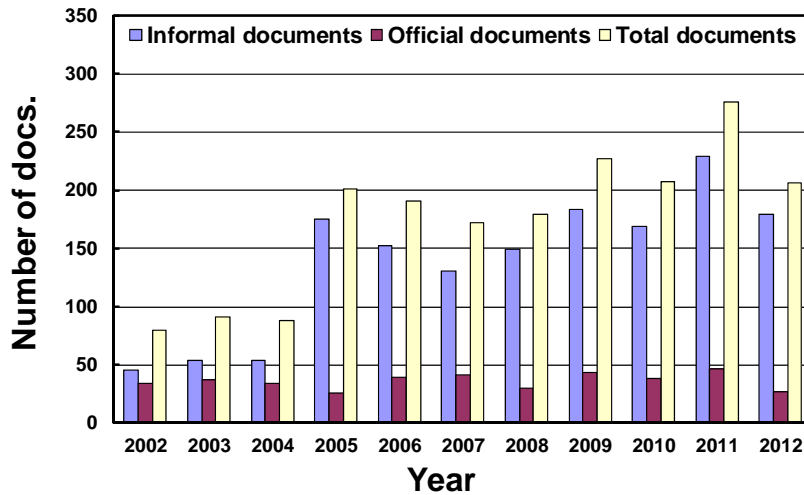


GRPE Official documents pages

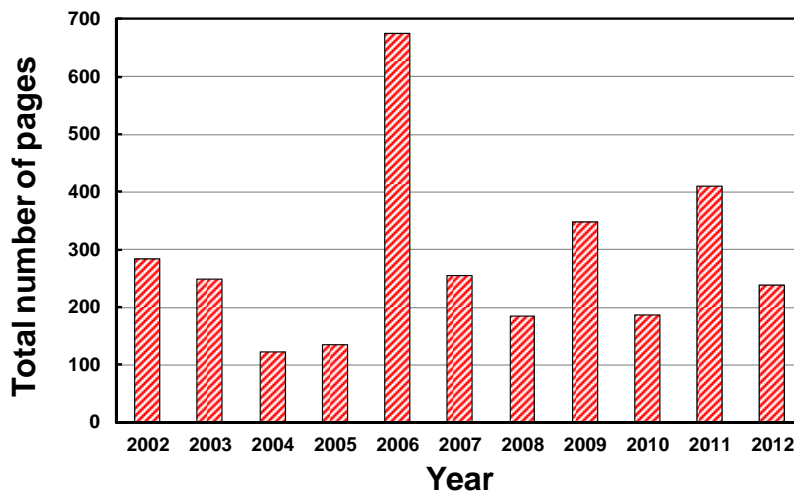


Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear and its informal groups				
GRRF	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
51 st , 52 nd (2002)	46	34	80	283
53 rd , 54 th (2003)	54	37	91	247
55 th , 56 th (2004)	54	34	88	121
57 th , 58 th (2005)	175	26	201	134
59 th , 60 th (2006)	152	39	191	675
61 st , 62 nd (2007)	131	41	172	254
63 rd , 64 th (2008)	149	30	179	183
65 th , 66 th (2009)	183	44	227	347
67 th , 68 th (2010)	169	38	207	185
69 th , 70 th , 71 st (2011)	229	47	276	410
72 nd , 73 rd (2012)	179	27	206	238

GRRF Informal & Official documents

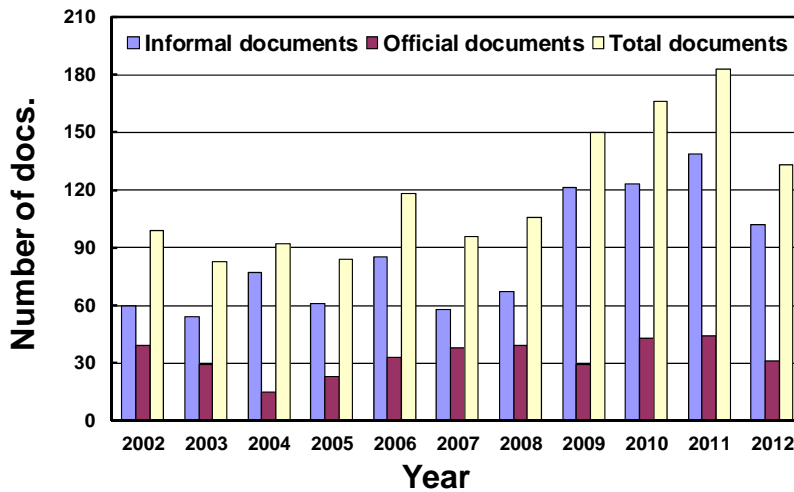


GRRF Official documents pages

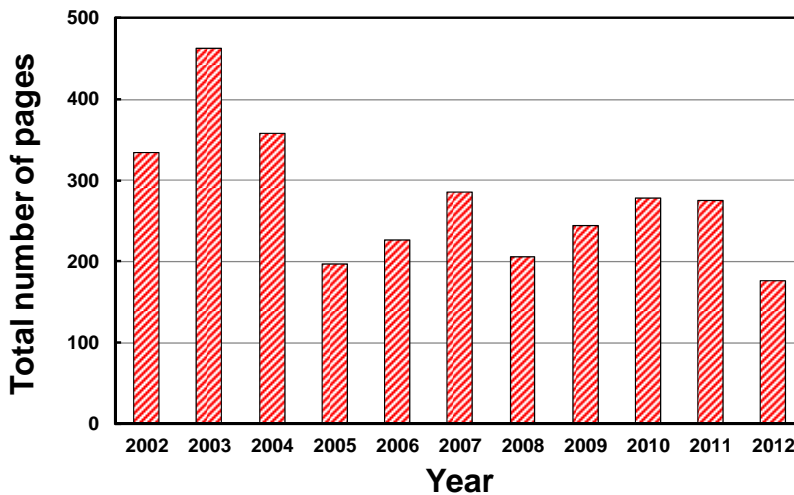


Working Party on General Safety Provisions and its informal groups				
GRSG	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
82 nd , 83 rd (2002)	60	39	99	333
84 th , 85 th (2003)	54	29	83	462
86 th , 87 th (2004)	77	15	92	358
88 th , 89 th (2005)	61	23	84	196
90 th , 91 st (2006)	85	33	118	226
92 nd , 93 rd (2007)	58	38	96	285
94 th , 95 th (2008)	67	39	106	205
96 th , 97 th (2009)	121	29	150	243
98 th , 99 th (2010)	123	43	166	278
100 th , 101 st (2011)	139	44	183	274
102 nd , 103 rd (2012)	102	31	133	176

GRSG Informal & Official documents

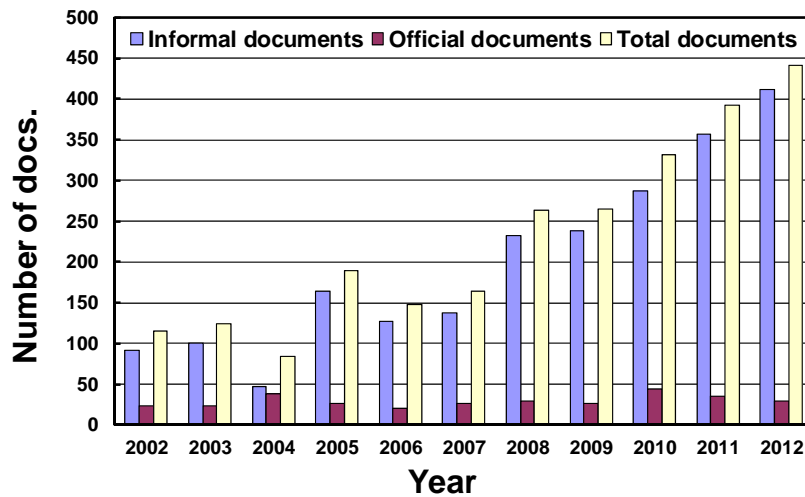


GRSG Official documents pages

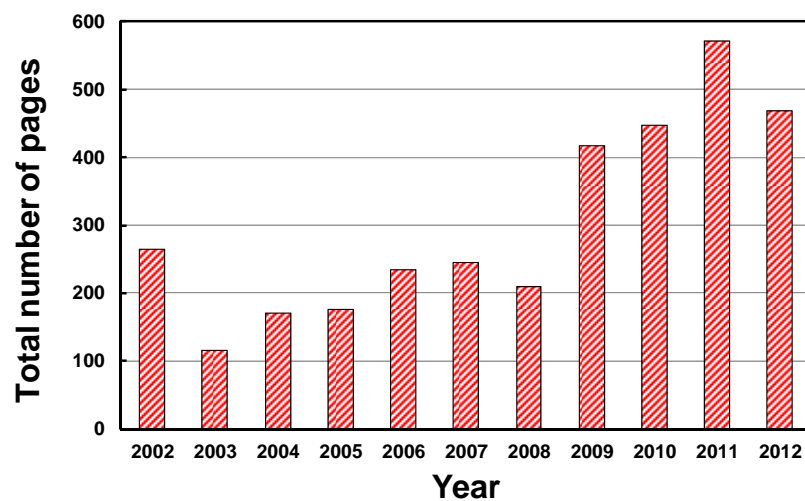


Working Party on Passive Safety and its informal groups				
GRSP	Documents			Number of pages
	Informal	Official	Total	Official
31 st , 32 nd (2002)	92	23	115	263
33 rd , 34 th (2003)	101	24	125	114
35 th , 36 th (2004)	47	38	85	170
37 th , 38 th (2005)	164	26	190	176
39 th , 40 th (2006)	127	21	148	234
41 st , 42 nd (2007)	137	27	164	244
43 rd , 44 th (2008)	233	30	263	209
45 th , 46 th (2009)	239	26	265	417
47 th , 48 th (2010)	288	44	332	446
49 th , 50 th (2011)	357	35	392	570
51 st , 52 nd (2012)	412	30	442	468

GRSP Informal & Official documents



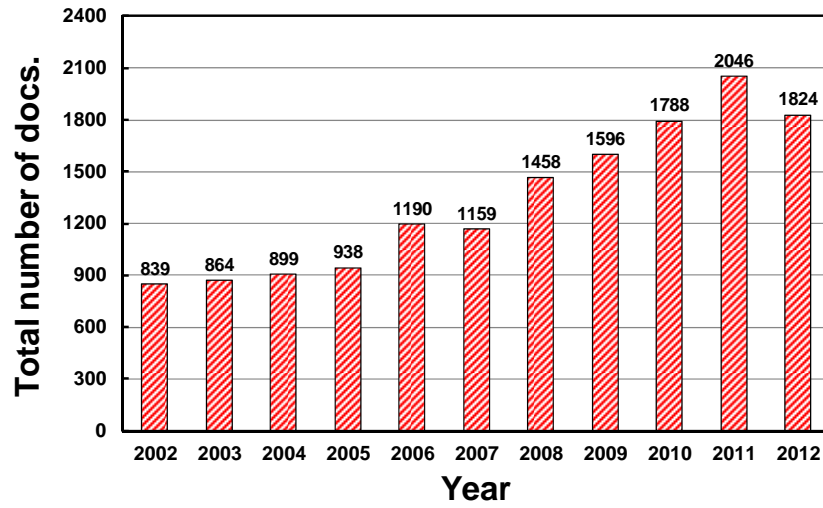
GRSP Official documents pages



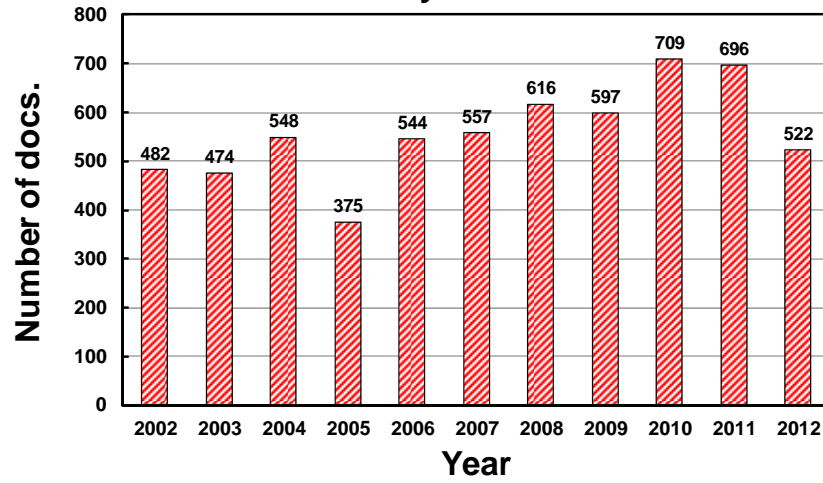
WP.29&GRs	WP.29				GRB		GRE		GRPE		GRRF		GRSG		GRSP		Total:		TOTAL	Δ
	Legal	Final	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	Official	Informal	With symbol	Without symbol		% previous year
Year:																				
2002	125	73	99	54	11	21	61	44	17	40	34	46	39	60	23	92	482	357	839	
2003	112	63	135	51	3	2	50	91	21	37	37	54	29	54	24	101	474	390	864	3.0
2004	166	119	92	61	3	13	68	54	13	45	34	54	15	77	38	47	548	351	899	4.1
2005	91	56	78	48	7	58	45	17	23	40	26	175	23	61	26	164	375	563	938	4.3
2006	137	60	121	91	11	62	89	31	33	98	39	152	33	85	21	127	544	646	1 190	26.9
2007	184	5	163	77	8	68	72	64	19	67	41	131	38	58	27	137	557	602	1 159	-2.6
2008	271	4	148	75	12	91	72	81	10	146	30	149	39	67	30	233	616	842	1 458	25.8
2009	128	16	247	78	11	96	75	87	21	195	44	183	29	121	26	239	597	999	1 596	9.5
2010	223	13	251	100	11	117	67	96	19	186	38	169	43	123	44	288	709	1 079	1 788	12.0
2011	187	10	267	196	16	82	71	65	19	282	47	229	44	139	35	357	696	1 350	2 046	14.4
2012	146	19	182	136	21	69	49	90	17	314	27	179	31	102	30	412	522	1 302	1 824	-10.9

WP.29&GRs	WP.29			GRB	GRE	GRPE	GRRF	GRSG	GRSP	Total	TOTAL	Δ
	Legal	Final	Official	Official	Official	Official	Official	Official	Official	Official only	Official, legal and final	% previous year
Year:												
2002	1 644	875	1 202	136	443	108	283	333	263	2 768	5 287	
2003	1 441	788	1 536	13	300	261	247	462	114	2 933	5 162	-2.4
2004	3 222	944	1 325	13	105	483	121	358	170	2 575	6 741	30.6
2005	2 002	801	1 015	212	288	47	134	196	176	2 068	4 871	-27.7
2006	2 035	576	2 044	63	737	1 049	675	226	234	5 028	7 639	56.8
2007	2 370	390	1 505	47	325	581	254	285	244	3 241	6 001	-21.4
2008	6 047	370	1 248	93	625	114	183	205	209	2 677	9 094	51.5
2009	2 704	497	2 855	121	602	757	347	243	417	5 342	8 543	-6.1
2010	2 220	461	1 673	155	334	267	185	278	446	3 338	6 019	-29.5
2011	3 373	517	2 280	170	358	615	410	274	570	4 677	8 967	49.0
2012	2 607	783	1 644	456	372	625	238	176	468	3 979	7 369	-17.8

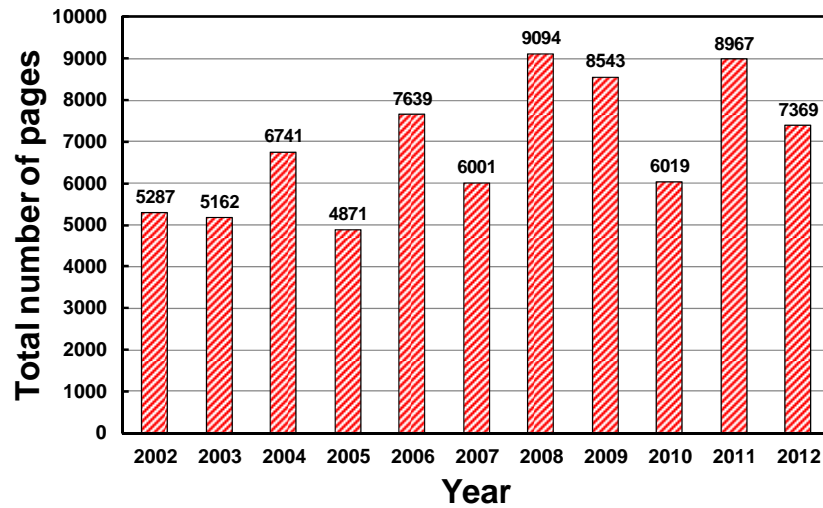
WP.29 & GRs documents



WP.29 & GRs document with Official symbol



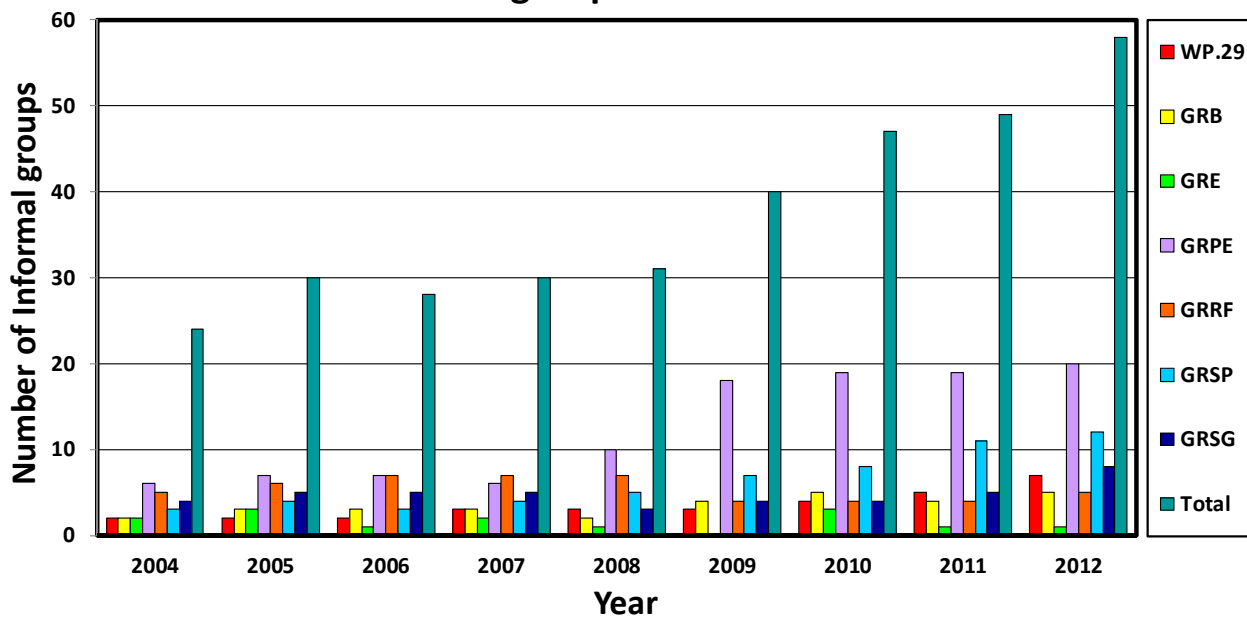
WP.29 & GRs total document pages



WP.29 and GRs by Informal Groups with limited mandates

Informal Groups	Year									
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
WP.29	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	5	7	
GRB	2	3	3	3	2	4	5	4	5	
GRE	2	3	1	2	1	0	3	1	1	
GRPE	6	7	7	6	10	18	19	19	20	
GRRF	5	6	7	7	7	4	4	4	5	
GRSP	3	4	3	4	5	7	8	11	12	
GRSG	4	5	5	5	3	4	4	5	8	
Total	24	30	28	30	31	40	47	49	58	

Informal groups of WP.29 & GRs

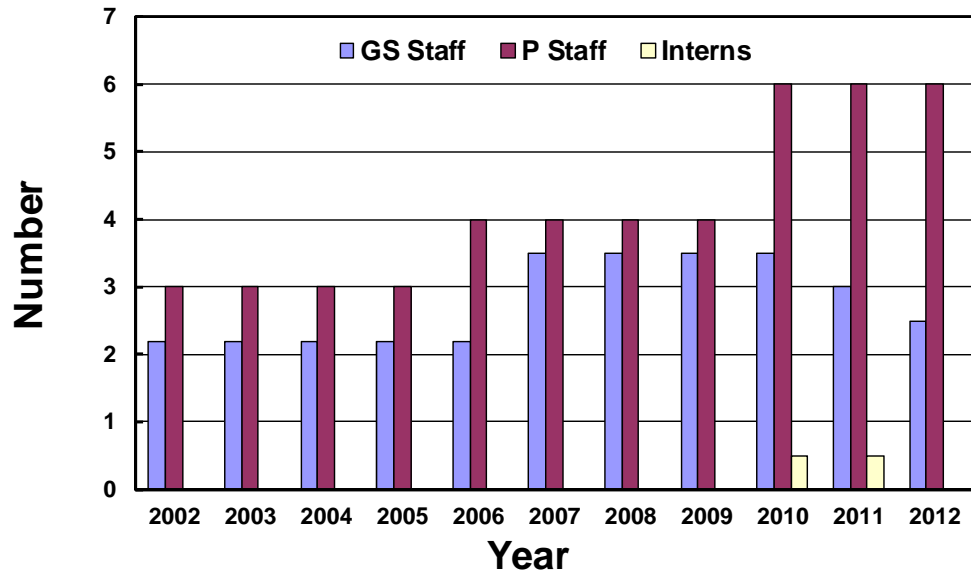


WP.29 Staff members

	Year											
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 *****
GS staff*	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.5
P staff**	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	5
Interns***	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0	0.5

- * 1 GS staff member retired in 2010 and was replaced in June 2011.
- ** 1 JPO staff member from January 2010 to December 2012 and 5 P staff members from June 2010.
- *** 1 Intern from May 2010 to November 2010.
- **** 1 Intern from August 2011 to December 2011.
- ***** Situation on 30 June 2013 (JPO contract ended in December 2012).

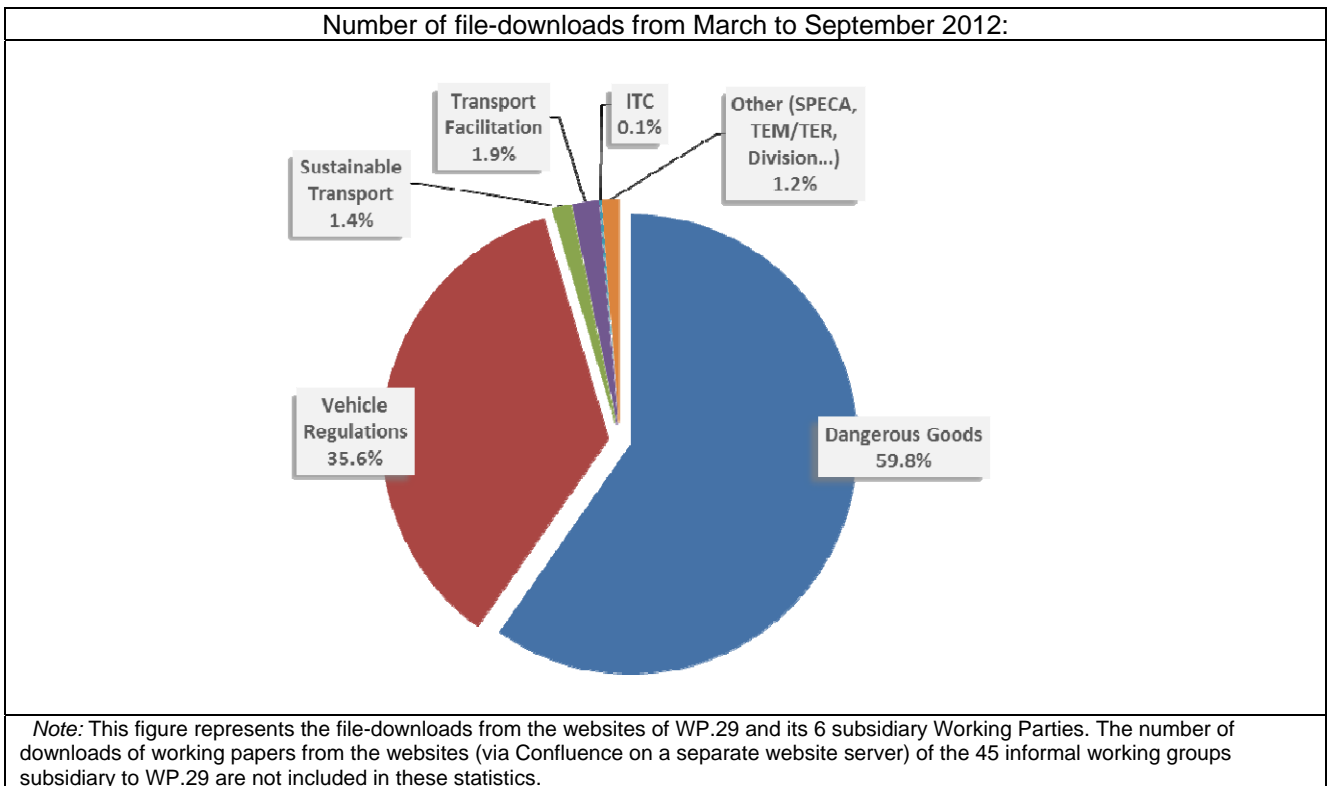
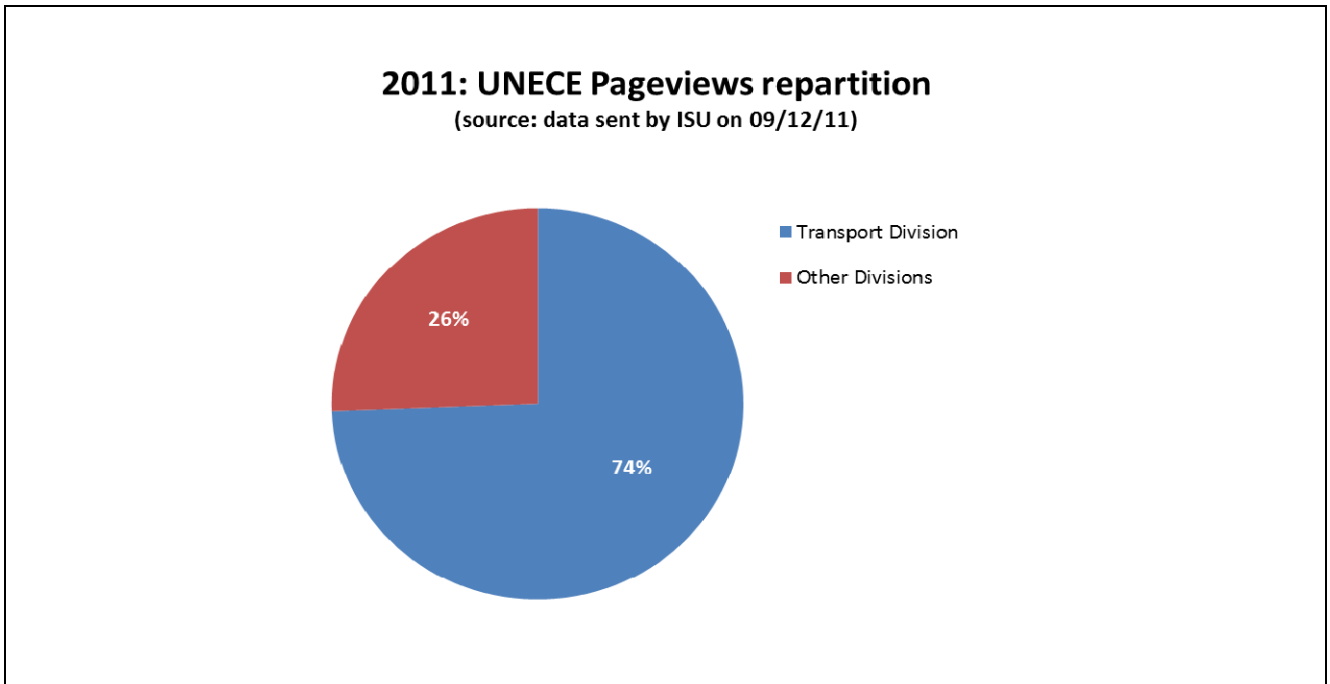
WP.29 Staff members



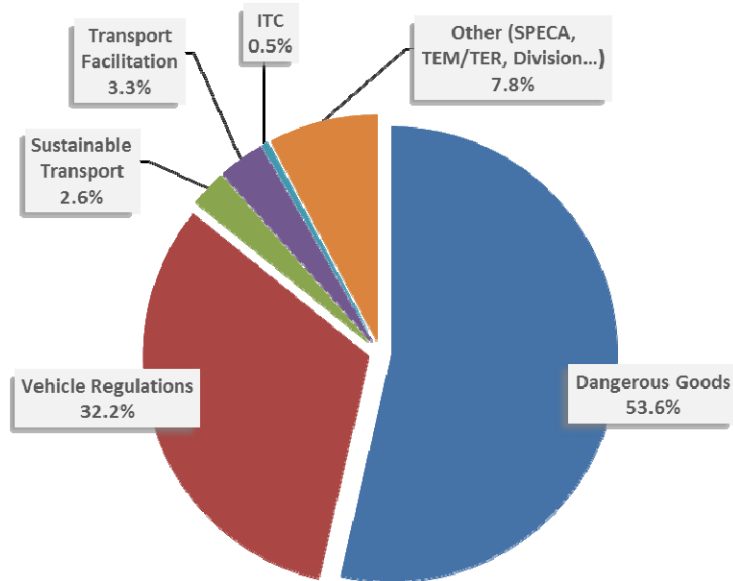
Number of articles published on UNECE activities in the international press in 2012

Topic	Number	
UNECE	174	<p>UNECE articles</p>
ES	369	
ECID (misc)	7	
Innovation	64	
PPP	142	
Energy	115	
Environment (misc)	104	
Aarhus	787	
Espoo	270	
Water	245	
Air	93	
EPR	114	
Industrial Accidents	14	
ESD	15	
SPECA	63	
Housing	104	
PAU	276	
Gender	19	
Stats	76	<p>UNECE, WP.29 and other transport articles</p>
Timber	188	
Trade (misc)	59	
CEFACT	82	
Agriculture	47	
Transport (misc)	275	
Dangerous goods	180	
WP.29	991	
Road safety	55	
TIR	25	
Sum	4 953	

Statistics of the UNECE Transport Division websites:



Number of unique page-views from March to September 2012:



Note: This figure represents the unique page-views of the website of WP.29 and its 6 subsidiary Working Parties. The number of page-views from the websites (via Confluence on a separate website server) of the 45 informal working groups subsidiary to WP.29 are not included in these statistics.