Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
Working Party on Noise
Fifty-eighth session
Geneva, 2-4 September 2013

Report of the Working Party on Noise
on its fifty-eighth session

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraphs</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Attendance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Regulation No. 41 (Noise of motorcycles) (agenda item 2)</td>
<td>3–6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Regulation No. 51 (Noise of M and N categories of vehicles) (agenda item 3)</td>
<td>7–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Development</td>
<td>7–9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. New limit values</td>
<td>10–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Additional sound emission provisions</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Regulation No. 59 (Replacement silencing systems) (agenda item 4)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Regulation No. 92 (Replacement exhaust silencing systems for motorcycles) (agenda item 5)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. Regulation No. 117 (Tyre rolling noise and wet grip adhesion) (agenda item 6)</td>
<td>15–16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. Collective amendments (agenda item 7)</td>
<td>17–19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Regulation Nos. 41, 51 and 59</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Regulation Nos. 9 and 63</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Additional sound emission provisions for Regulations Nos. 9, 63 and 92</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Proposal for amendments to Regulations Nos. 28, 51, 59 and 117</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IX. Exchange of information on national and international requirements on noise levels (agenda item 8) ................................................................. 21 8
X. Influence of road surface on tyre rolling sound emissions (agenda item 9) ....... 22 8
XI. Quiet Road Transport Vehicles (agenda item 10) ...................................... 23-25 8
XII. Definitions and acronyms in Regulations under GRB responsibilities (agenda item 11) ............................................................................. 26 9
XIII. Proposal for amendments to the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (agenda item 12) .................................................... 27 9
XIV. Environmentally friendly vehicles (agenda item 13) ................................. 28 9
XV. Development of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system and involvement of the Working Parties (GRs) in it (agenda item 14) ...... 29 9
XVI. 1997 Agreement (Periodical technical inspections) (agenda item 15) .......... 30 10
XVII. Highlights of the March and June 2013 session of WP.29 (agenda item 16) .... 31 10
XVIII. Other business (agenda item 17) ............................................................. 32 10
Real release of particulates by transport vehicles ........................................... 32 10
XIX. Election of officers (agenda item 18) ....................................................... 33 10
XX. Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session (agenda item 19) ................. 34 10

Annexes
I. List of informal documents (GRB-58…) distributed during the session.......... 12
II. Draft amendments to Regulation No. 41 ...................................................... 14
III. GRB informal groups ............................................................................. 15
I. Attendance

1. The Working Party on Noise (GRB) held its fifty-eighth session from 2 (afternoon) to 4 (afternoon) September 2013 in Geneva. The meeting was chaired by Mr. S. Ficheux (France). Experts from the following countries participated in the work following Rule 1(a) of the Rules of Procedure of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) (TRANS/WP.29/690, Amend.1 and Amend.2): Belgium; Czech Republic; China; France; Germany; Hungary; India; Italy; Japan; Latvia; Netherlands; Norway; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Spain; Switzerland; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Experts from the European Commission (EC) participated. Experts from the following non-governmental organizations also participated: European Association of Automobile Suppliers (CLEPA); European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation (ETRTO); International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA); International Organization for Standardization (ISO); International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA) and World Blind Union (WBU).

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1

2. GRB considered and adopted the agenda ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/6 and its Corr.1 and Add.1 including new agenda items 17 "Real release of particulates by transport vehicles", 18 "Election of officers" and 19 "Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session".

III. Regulation No. 41 (Noise of motorcycles) (agenda item 2)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/5
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/7
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/11
Informal documents GRB-56-08, GRB-58-01 and GRB-58-11-Rev.1

3. GRB adopted ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/11 not amended, introducing corrections to the current text of the UN Regulation. The secretariat was requested to submit the proposal to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2014 sessions as draft Supplement 1 to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 41.

4. GRB also resumed discussion on a proposal (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/7), tabled by the expert from ISO, updating the text of the UN Regulation and concerning the test site with the latest amendment of ISO Standard 5130:2012. GRB adopted ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/7 not amended. The secretariat was requested to submit the proposal to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2014 sessions as part of (see para. 3) draft Supplement 1 to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 41.

5. The expert from IMMA introduced GRB-58-01, proposing an amendment to the transitional provisions of the UN Regulation. In the meantime GRB also considered GRB-58-11-Rev.1, aligning GRB-58-01 to the General Guidelines for UN Regulatory Procedures and Transitional Provisions in UN Regulations (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1044/Rev.1). Finally, GRB adopted GRB-58-01, as reproduced in Annex II to this report. The secretariat was requested to submit GRB-58-01 to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2014 sessions as part of (see paras. 3 and 4) draft Supplement 1 to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 41. Moreover,
GRB agreed to keep GRB-58-11-Rev.1 as a reference in its agenda of the January 2014 session, awaiting a possible proposal of full revision of the transitional provisions of the UN Regulation.

6. GRB resumed consideration of ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/5, tabled by the expert from the Russian Federation. The expert from IMMA reiterated the same concerns expressed in the last sessions of GRB (GRB-56-08), suggesting a time reservation on the proposal so as to receive more data from the technical services applying the 04 series of amendments of the UN Regulation recently entered into force. GRB agreed to resume discussion on this subject at its January 2014 session, awaiting possible proposals on harmonized definitions and terminology common to UN Regulations Nos. 9, 41, 63 and 92.

IV. Regulation No. 51 (Noise of M and N categories of vehicles) (agenda item 3)

A. Development

Documentation:  
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/8  
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/16  
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/4  
Informal documents GRB-56-12, GRB-57-13,  
GRB-58-17-Rev.1

7. The expert from OICA, secretary of the group of interested expert on vehicle noise, introduced GRB-58-04 (superseding ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/8, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/16 and GRB-56-12) as a result of discussions in the last meeting of his group held in Brussels on 4 July 2013. The expert from EC, Chair, of the same group clarified that GRB-58-04 was an attempt to merge the provisions of the proposal of the Parliament and the Council of the EU1 with the current proposal of 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51 and including additional aspects concerning the Chinese and Japanese markets, which were beyond the scope of the European Union legislation. He added that the outcome of discussions that would follow within GRB would be transmitted to the EU legislators with the aim of harmonizing the proposal with the draft 03 series of amendments. The expert from Japan proposed GRB-58-15 proposing the removal from GRB-58-04 of specifications on audible vehicle alerting system (AVAS) which is still in the process of development in the framework of activities of the UN GTR on Quiet Road Transport Vehicles (QRTV). The expert from Japan, Vice-Chair of the QRTV informal working group (IWG), also on behalf of the Chair of the IWG, reported similar concerns and request. The experts from China, the Republic of Korea and OICA supported these remarks. GRB endorsed the proposal made by the expert from Japan by suspending the discussion on AVAS provisions. GRB agreed to incorporate the results of discussion, including those of agenda item 3(b) (see paras. 10 and 11) into GRB-58-17-Rev.1., superseding GRB-58-04. It was noted that provisions still pending or suspended, were placed in square brackets in this document. The Chair of GRB clarified that GRB-58-17-Rev.1 would remain, on an informal basis, as a platform of discussion between the experts from GRB and EU in the group of interested experts on vehicle noise. GRB

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1 The file designation of the EU proposal correspond to 2011/0409 (COD) available at:  
http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/automotive/documents/proposals/index_en.htm#h2-1  
However, the last revision of this document is still in process and not yet available to the public.
agreed to resume discussion on this subject on the basis of the outcome of next meetings of
the group of interested experts scheduled for the first week of November 2013 and for the
second week of January 2014 (both in Brussels).

8. Concerning the current 02 series of amendments to the UN regulation, GRB
considered GRB-58-03, tabled by the expert from OICA updating the requirements on the
noise test track from ISO 10844:1994 to ISO 10844:2011. GRB requested the secretariat to
distribute GRB-58-03 with an official symbol at its next session.

9. Finally GRB resumed discussion on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/4 and
GRB-57-13 proposing amendments to improve the test method of the 02 series of
amendments to the UN Regulation. Moreover, the expert from China introduced
GRB-58-07, to propose an amendment to the acceleration test value. GRB agreed to
postpone decision on these proposals until its January 2014 session, awaiting the outcome of
the ongoing discussion in ISO Working Group 42 on revising Standard ISO 362-1:2007,
referred in the current test method of the UN Regulation.

B. New limit values

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/7

10. GRB resumed consideration on vehicle categories and their limit values on the basis
of the proposal drafted by the group of interested experts (GRB-58-04). The expert from
Japan gave a presentation (GRB-58-14) on light vehicles of category N1. Accordingly, he
introduced GRB-58-06-Rev.1 amending GRB-58-04. The experts from France and
Germany supported the proposal (GRB-58-06-Rev.1), which was incorporated into
GRB-58-17-Rev.1 after the discussion. The expert from China partially supported the
proposal from Japan. However, he showed in GRB-58-10 that the position of the engine is
more relevant for vehicle categories M1 and N1 with a GVW ≤ 2.5 t, with the engine on the
front axle and a rear axle drive. He underlined that these kinds of vehicles for these
technical reasons produce a higher noise emission and suggested higher limit values
(GRB-58-08). He also urged the need of vehicles categorization through their GVW instead
of power mass ratio (GRB-58-09), aiming at provisions encompassing vehicle fleets at
global level. The expert from France suggested clarifying the correspondence of the
proposed vehicle classifications tabled by the expert from China and those proposed in
GRB-58-04. The expert from the Netherlands expressed concern that the proposals prepared
by the expert from China could introduce design restrictions. The expert from Germany
proposed further study in the framework of the interested group of experts on the basis of
more data provided by the expert from China. He also suggested a three steps approach in
finding a common agreement on: (i) vehicle category and subcategory, (ii) measurement
method and finally on (iii) limits that eventually could match different scenarios.

11. GRB reproduced the whole discussion on the draft 03 series of amendments in
GRB-58-17-Rev.1 as a basis of discussion of the informal group of experts and agreed to
resume consideration on this subject at its January 2014 session (see para. 7 above). GRB
also agreed to simplify the agenda of the next session by keeping as reference only
C. Additional sound emission provisions

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2011/64

12. GRB noted that no new information had been given under this agenda item.

V. Regulation No. 59 (Replacement silencing systems) (agenda item 4)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/8
Informal document GRB-58-05

13. The expert from CLEPA introduced ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/8 amended by GRB-58-05 and aimed at introducing ASEP provisions. The expert from the Russian Federation suggested that the text of the proposal should be aligned with the corresponding ASEP provisions of the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51. GRB agreed to defer discussion on this subject to its January 2013 session awaiting a new official proposal at that session, aligned to a revised proposal on ASEP provisions of UN Regulation No. 51. It was also agreed to keep ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/8 and GRB-58-05 as references in the agenda of the next meeting.

VI. Regulation No. 92 (Replacement exhaust silencing systems for motorcycles) (agenda item 5)

14. GRB noted that no new information had been given under this agenda item.

VII. Regulation No. 117 (Tyre rolling noise and wet grip adhesion) (agenda item 6)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/10

15. The expert from the Russian Federation made a presentation (GRB-58-12) to introduce a revised proposal (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/10) that would introduce a "Deceleration Calculator" software for the deceleration test method in the test procedure for measuring rolling resistance. The expert from France informed GRB that the proposed calculator had been verified for a first cycle of tests by the Technical Union for the Automobile, Motorcycle and Cycle Industries (UTAC). However, he added that the method should be still thoroughly analysed. The expert from ETRTO expressed some doubts on the variability of the method by temperature change and stated that further work was needed to demonstrate equivalence. The expert from the Russian Federation recalled that full cooperation was offered by the Russian experts as well as data sharing and asked GRB to take into consideration the positive experience developed by the industrial sector of his country in this field. The expert from France proposed to host a meeting of experts (date to be defined) in UTAC to further the exchange of views and finalize the proposal. The Chair of GRB suggested that other laboratories would start similar activities to evaluate the proposed method and devise possible alternative calculators to provide wider choice to future users. Finally, GRB endorsed the ad hoc meeting with the experts of ETRTO and the Russian Federation which was proposed by the expert from France to test the proposed "Deceleration Calculator". It was also noted that once that the calculator was
accepted by GRB as a valid alternative to the current one, it could be hosted on the WP.29 website, as an example, with an anonymous reference.

16. The expert from ETRTO introduced GRB-58-02, proposing new time measurement accuracy for instrumentation involved in the rolling resistance method (Annex 6 of the UN Regulation). The expert from the Russian Federation introduced GRB-58-13, arguing that this change of accuracy was not needed for Annex 6. GRB agreed to resume discussion on this subject at its January 2014 session, awaiting a revised proposal jointly prepared by the experts from the Russian Federation and ETRTO.

VIII. Collective amendments (agenda item 7)

A. Regulations Nos. 41, 51 and 59

17. GRB noted the absence of new information under this item and agreed to remove it from the agenda of the next session.

B. Regulations Nos. 9 and 63

18. GRB noted the absence of new information under this item and agreed to remove it from the agenda of the next session.

C. Additional sound emission provisions for Regulations Nos. 9, 63 and 92

19. The expert from EC informed GRB that his organization was not favourable to incorporating the ASEP provisions into UN Regulations Nos. 9, 63 and 92 because they were ineffective for L categories of vehicles and would rather create difficulties in type approval procedures. However, he added that antitampering provisions were still needed to cover all L categories. The expert from IMMA recalled that the 07 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 9 and the 02 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 63, recently adopted, already introduced provisions of this kind. GRB agreed to resume consideration on this agenda item at its January 2014 session on the basis of possible concrete proposal that would cover the remaining issues.

D. Proposal for amendments to Regulations Nos. 28, 51, 59 and 117

20. GRB noted that during the Administrative Committee for the coordination of Work (AC.2) at the June 2013 session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1104, para. 19), the Chairs of the GRs suggested inserting the new provisions on revisions and extensions into the consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3) and referring in UN Regulations to that part of R.E.3. The expert from OICA informed GRB of her intention to submit a proposal at a later stage, awaiting the outcome of the IWTA IWG on the same subject. GRB decided to keep this agenda item for its next session awaiting a concrete proposal from the expert of OICA.

IX. Exchange of information on national and international requirements on noise levels (agenda item 8)

21. GRB noted that no new information had been given under this agenda item.
X. Influence of road surface on tyre rolling sound emissions (agenda item 9)

22. GRB noted the absence of new information under this agenda item.

XI. Quiet Road Transport Vehicles (agenda item 10)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/6
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/33
Informal documents GRB-58-16

23. The expert from EC, secretary of the IWG on QRTV, informed GRB about the outcome of the last meeting of QRTV held in Washington, D.C. from 16 to 18 July 2013. He also announced that the next meetings of his group were scheduled on 5-6 September in Geneva, from 8 to 10 October in Washington, D.C. and on 7 December 2013 in Tokyo. He stated that a concrete proposal of UN GTR was in progress and was keeping to the agreed time schedule. He added that among the most relevant issues to be discussed in the next meetings were the mandatory or optional activation of the audible vehicle alerting system (AVAS) when the vehicle is stationary and beginning motion. The expert from the Netherlands reiterated his concerns that the installation of such devices would shift the responsibility of the driver to vulnerable road users (such as visually impaired people) and suggested the mandatory installation of advanced emergency breaking system (AEBS) instead of AVAS. The expert from WBU, stated that his organization supports any technology that improves pedestrian safety. However, he added that AEBS would not eliminate the need for the AVAS. He further explained that if an approaching vehicle was coming from a certain distance (i.e. fifty or sixty feet) when the blind person steps onto the road, the AEBS might be effective. However, he argued that if the distance of the vehicle was closer (i.e. ten or fifteen feet), AEBS could cause potential harm to the passengers and endanger a following vehicle by its unexpected breaking action. Finally, he said that on the same basis there was evidence of the need for vehicle sound while it is stationary because of the ability of the electric and hybrid electric vehicles to start moving abruptly. At the request of GRB Chair and of the expert from EC, the experts from the Contracting Parties to the 1958 and 1998 Agreements expressed their views on the mandatory activation of AVAS in stationary and commencing moving of the vehicle. GRB noted that further discussion was needed to clearly indicate the way forward on this subject and encouraged experts to participate in the next meetings of QRTV.

24. The expert from IMMA expressed concerns on the possible inclusion of powered two wheelers (PTWs) in the scope of the UN GTR. He added that the specifications in the UN GTR were solely based on analyses applicable for four-wheeled vehicles. He suggested that the inclusion of PTWs should be considered on the basis of relevant data and analysis, taking into account the specifics and use of PTWs.

25. GRB recalled the recommendation of the Administrative Committee for the coordination of Work (AC.2) at the November 2012 session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1102, para. 12), that GRB would find a proper balance for noise limit values and minimum sound levels for QRTV equipped with AVAS. Therefore, the expert from France made a presentation (GRB-58-16), addressing this concern. He suggested fixing the purpose of the UN GTR development by avoiding excessive noise and preventing conflict with the future 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51. GRB agree to resume discussion at its January 2014 session on the basis of the outcome of the IWG on QRTV.
XII. Definitions and acronyms in Regulations under GRB responsibilities (agenda item 11)

Documentation: Informal documents GRB-57-12 and GRB-57-18

26. GRB agreed to resume discussion at its January 2014 session on the basis of GRB-57-12 and GRB-57-18 and of informal documents provided by the expert from CLEPA concerning UN Regulations Nos. 59 and 28 and by the expert from EC concerning QRTV.

XIII. Proposal for amendments to the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (agenda item 12)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/12
ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/9
Informal documents GRB-57-08, GRB-57-10
and GRB-57-11

27. GRB resumed consideration on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2013/9 tabled by the expert from the Russian Federation. The expert from IMMA requested a study reservation on paragraph 8.8.21.2. including new categories of vehicles L₆ and L₇ not yet covered by UN Regulation No. 9. GRB agreed to resume consideration on this subject at its January 2014 session and for possible adoption of the proposal as a whole. Moreover, it was agreed to remove ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2012/12 and GRB-57-10 and GRB-57-11 from the agenda of the next meeting, awaiting possible new information from the ISO expert and revised proposals, if any.

XIV. Environmentally friendly vehicles (agenda item 13)

28. GRB noted the decision of WP.29 at its March 2013 session to freeze the activities of the environmentally friendly vehicles (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1102, para. 76) and deleted this item from the agenda of its next sessions.

XV. Development of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system and involvement of the Working Parties (GRs) in it (agenda item 14)

Documentation: Informal documents WP.29-160-27 and WP.29-160-33

29. The expert from EC recalled WP.29-160-27 and WP.29-160-33, introduced at the June 2013 session of WP.29 and showing the scope for changes in the 1958 Agreement and UN Regulation No. 0, aiming at establishing an IWVTA. The expert from EC asked GRB if changes on the objectives were needed, especially, concerning UN Regulations Nos. 51 and 117. He informed GRB about the forthcoming subgroups (Subgroup on the 1958 Agreement and Subgroup on UN Regulation No. 0) meetings on IWVTA, scheduled from 11 to 13 September 2013 in Paris. The experts from ETRTO and OICA endorsed UN Regulation No. 51 inclusion at the IWVTA without splitting its provisions. The expert from ETRTO expressed concern that actually a new UN Regulation dedicated to tyre installation was still missing. GRB agreed to resume consideration on this subject at its January 2013 session awaiting the outcome of IWVTA informal group.
XVI. 1997 Agreement (Periodical technical inspections)  
(agenda item 15)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/64

30. GRB considered ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/64 proposing an amendment to UN Rule No.1 (environment). However, it was noted that an amendment to the corresponding EU Directive was in progress. GRB agreed to defer the adoption of ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/64 awaiting the final revision of the corresponding EU Directive to fully harmonize them.

XVII. Highlights of the March and June 2013 session of WP.29  
(agenda item 16)

31. The Secretary reported on the highlights of the 159th and 169th session of WP.29 (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1102 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1104).

XVIII. Other business (agenda item 17)

Real release of particulates by transport vehicles

Documentation: Informal document WP.29-160-39

32. The decision of WP.29/AC.2 to refer WP.29-160-39 to GRB for information was noted (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1104, para 18). GRB did not have comments on the document.

XIX. Election of officers (agenda item 18)

33. In compliance with Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure (TRANS/WP.29/690 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/690/Amend.1), GRB called for the election of officers. The representatives of the Contracting Parties, present and voting, elected unanimously Mr. Serge Ficheux (France) as Chair and Mr. Andrei Bocharov (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chair for the sessions of GRB scheduled in the year 2014.

XIX. Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session (agenda item 19)

34. For its fifty-ninth session, scheduled to be held in Geneva from 28 (starting at 2.30 p.m.) to 30 (concluding at 5.30 p.m.) January 2014, GRB noted that the deadline for submission of official documents to the secretariat was 1 November 2013, twelve weeks prior to the session. Moreover, the following provisional agenda was adopted:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Regulation No. 41 (Noise of motorcycles): Development.
3. Regulation No. 51 (Noise of M and N categories of vehicles):
   (a) Development;
   (b) New limit values;
(c) Additional sound emission provisions.
4. Regulation No. 59 (Replacement silencing systems).
5. Regulation No. 92 (Replacement exhaust silencing systems for motorcycles).
6. Regulation No. 117 (Tyre rolling noise and wet grip adhesion).
7. Collective amendments:
   (a) Additional sound emission provisions for Regulations Nos. 9, 63 and 92;
   (b) Proposal for amendments to Regulations Nos. 28, 51, 59 and 117.
8. Exchange of information on national and international requirements on noise levels.
9. Influence of road surface on tyre rolling sound emissions.
10. Quiet Road Transport Vehicles.
11. Definitions and acronyms in Regulations under GRB responsibilities.
13. Development of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) system and involvement of the Working Parties (GRs) in it.
14. Other business.
15. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session.
## Annex I

### List of informal documents (GRB-58-...) distributed during the session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Transmitted by</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Follow-up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>IMMA</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for Supplement 1 to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 41 (Noise emissions of motorcycles)</td>
<td>(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ETRTO</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for Supplement 6 to the 02 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 117</td>
<td>(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3(a)</td>
<td>OICA</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for Supplement 10 to the 02 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51</td>
<td>(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>GRB Expert Group on Regulation No. 51</td>
<td>3(a)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51</td>
<td>(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CLEPA</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for Supplement 1 to the 01 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 59</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3(b)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Proposal for the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51</td>
<td>(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>3(a)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Top borderline for test acceleration - UN Regulation No. 51</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>3(b)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Comments on Japanese limit value suggestion of commercial vehicles</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>3(b)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Draft limit value for Chinese noise regulation (GB 1495)</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>3(b)</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Set of sub-categories of M1 \ N1</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Rev.1</td>
<td>Note by Secretariat</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>UN Regulation No. 41 - Transitional provisions</td>
<td>(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
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**Notes:**

(a) Consideration completed or superseded
(b) Continue consideration at the next session with an official symbol
(c) Continue consideration at the next session as informal document
(d) Adopted and to be submitted to WP.29
Annex II

Draft amendments to Regulation No. 41

Adopted text based on GRB-58-01 (see para. 5 of this report)

*Paragraph 12.5.*, amend to read:

"12.5. Approvals granted under this Regulation before the entry into force of the 04 series of amendments date in paragraph 12.2 and all extensions of such approvals, including those granted subsequently under a preceding series of amendments to this Regulation, shall remain valid indefinitely…"
Annex III

GRB informal groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Informal group</th>
<th>Chair(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quiet road transport</td>
<td>Mr. Ezana Wondimneh (USA)</td>
<td>Mr. H.P. Bietenbeck (OICA)</td>
<td>September 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>vehicles (QRTV)</td>
<td>Tel: +1 202 366 21 17</td>
<td>Tel.: +49 221 90 32 409</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:Ezana.wondimneh@dot.gov">Ezana.wondimneh@dot.gov</a></td>
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