

Terms of Reference of the informal working group on Periodical Technical Inspections (IWG on PTI)

I. Introduction

1. Provisions of the 1968 Vienna convention on road traffic require to maintain roadworthiness of the vehicles, participating in the international traffic.

Requirements for vehicles in service and to their periodical technical inspection are prescribed by UN ECE documents, including the 1968 Vienna convention on road traffic, the 1997 Vienna agreement, the UNECE Consolidated Resolution R.E.1 and the Directive of the European Commission 2014/45/EU.

2. The 1997 Vienna agreement concerning periodical technical inspections (PTI) of wheeled vehicles entered into force on 27 January 2001 following the sixth country becoming a Contracting Party. Up to now, 12 countries are contracting parties to the agreement (Russian Federation, Estonia, Netherlands, Romania, Hungary, Finland, Bulgaria, Belarus, Albania, Ukraine, Moldova and Kazakhstan) where six of them are members of the European Union. Since this date, the agreement has been amended twice and Rule 1, devoted to environmental aspects of PTI and Rule 2, covering safety related aspects, have been introduced. To meet technical progress, the rules, annexed to the agreement, shall subject to a continuous process of being amended.

3. The 1997 Vienna agreement solves some important problems:

- Road safety and environmental protection of the international automobile carriages;
- elimination of barriers for free movement of the international automobile carriages;
- ensuring the benefits accruing from the original design and manufacturing of vehicle are retained, where justified, throughout the life of the vehicles;
- submission of the international standards incorporating the best practices in the sphere of Road safety and environmental protection.

4. Different instruments are used to confirm compliance of the vehicle to the roadworthiness requirements. .

5. Type approval of vehicles and periodical technical inspection of their roadworthiness ensure road safety and environmental protection at different stages of the life cycle of the vehicle.

6. The type approval regulations, developed in the framework of the 1958 Geneva agreement, should support procedures for the technical inspection and contain the required data for that. As examples, the approved Regulations No.130 and 131 include such provisions (paragraphs 5.6 and 5.5 of these regulations accordingly).

7. To provide for a proper preparation of the proposals on development of the 1997 Vienna agreement provisions and alignment it with national legislations of the Contracting Parties, it is deemed necessary to install an informal working group (IWG) on PTI as its elements might not be covered by the work of the current existing in frame of

WP.29 subsidiary GRs. Furthermore such an IWG would allow PTI experts to participate, as usually they are not well represented, in any of the groups, dealing with type-approval issues. In addition, IWG provides a platform for discussions on PTI, which should result in a consensus on possible amendments to existing rules and on the envisaged new rules would smooth the decision making process within WP.29 and AC.4.

II. Working items to be covered

8. Provisions for conformity of periodical technical inspection process

The Administrating Authority of a Contracting Party must verify – before granting authorization for Technical Inspection Centre - the existence of satisfactory arrangements and procedures for ensuring effective control so that vehicles, equipment or parts when inspected conform to the Rules, annexed to the 1997 Vienna agreement.

This should have an effect on the efficiency and confidence for the mutual recognition of the certificates, alignment of the national legislations of the Contracting Parties, introducing provisions for conformity of periodical technical inspection process into the text of the 1997 Vienna agreement, namely

- requirements for the equipment to be used for PTI,
- requirements for the skills , training and authorization of persons performing PTI,
- requirements for supervision and quality control of PTI centers,
- recommended inspection methods,
- possible electronic form of the PTI certificate.

Roadworthiness tests undertaken in accordance with the recommended methods specified in the Rules should be carried out by using appropriate facilities and equipment. IWG should develop minimum requirements to them.

Before authorizing an applicant for a position as inspector to carry out periodic roadworthiness tests, competent authorities should verify that that person has certified knowledge and an appropriate initial and refresher training. IWG should develop minimum requirements to the elements.

Conformity of periodical technical inspection process should include provisions ensuring supervision, verification, auditing and monitoring of testing centers activity. IWG should develop minimum requirements to the elements.

9. Completing draft amendments to Rule 1 and Rule 2

The IWG considers the proposals for amendment of UN Rule No. 1 (document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/132/Rev.1) and UN Rule No. 2 (document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/133/Rev.2) for their possible adoption by AC.4 by voting.

10. Development of new rules for vehicles and their parts and equipment incorporating new technologies

Alternative propulsion-systems and other new technologies are becoming more and more used in vehicles. The technologies used arise some additional aspects that have to be considered when assessing their roadworthiness. IWG should take them into consideration to work out draft Rules devoted to those vehicles.

11. Others

- (i) Consideration of guidance regarding PTI when requested to WP29 by GRs
- (ii) Exchange of views and information from each Contracting Party about the most advanced technology, equipment and methods, including, such as research results including field tests, information on the national legal system and measures, events, conventions, etc.
- (iii) Exchange of views and information on PTI will also be taken forward. This latter activity might be concurrent with above discussion on PTI.
- (iv) Necessary discussion will be made at appropriate terms.
- (v) Consider further items to be treated by the IWG or the WP.29

III. Timeline

(a) Approval process

June 2015 Submission of draft TOR of IWG-PTI to WP29 for approval

(b) Provisions for conformity of periodical technical inspection process

November 2016 Submission of draft recommendation

(c) Completing draft amendments to Rule 1 and Rule 2

March 2016 Submission of the draft Rule 1

June 2016 Submission of the draft Rule 2

(d) Development of new rules for vehicles and their parts and equipment

November 2017 Submission of draft document on electric and hybrid vehicles

March 2017 Submission of draft document on LPG/CNG vehicles

November 2017 Submission of a proposal for possible further steps

(g) Other

Necessary discussion will be made at appropriate times.

IV. Rules of procedure

The following rules of procedure describe the functioning principles of the informal working group.

- (a) Following the Rules of Procedure of WP.29. Chapter 1, Rule 1, the IWG is open to all experts from any country or organization of WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies.
- (b) Two Co-Chairs (Netherland and the Russian Federation) and a Secretary (CITA) will manage the IWG.
- (c) The working language of the IWG will be English.
- (d) All documents and/or proposals shall be submitted to the secretary of the group in a suitable electronic format, preferably in line with the UNECE guidelines in advance of the meetings. The group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated 5 working days in advance of the scheduled meetings.
- (e) The IWG shall meet regularly Meetings will be organized upon demand.
- (f) An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the informal working group in advance of all scheduled meetings.
- (g) The work process will be developed by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Co-Chairs of the informal group shall present the different points of view to WP.29. The Co-Chairs may seek guidance from WP.29 as appropriate.

- (h) The progress of the informal group will be routinely reported to WP.29 orally or with an informal document by the Co-Chairs.
 - (i) All documents shall be distributed in digital format. The specific PTI/AD section on the UNECE website shall be used for this purpose.
 - (j) Draft meeting minutes will be available after each meeting, and presented to approval in the next one.
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