Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
Working Party on Noise
Sixty-fourth session
Item 11 of the provisional agenda
Quiet road transport vehicles

Proposal for the 01 series of amendments to the new Regulation No. [138]

Submitted by the expert from Japan*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Japan in accordance with a discussion at the sixty-third session of the Working Party on Noise (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/61, para. 19) regarding the prohibition of the pause function in Regulation No. [138] (Quiet road transport vehicles). The modifications to the current text of the Regulation (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2016/26) are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2014–2018 (ECE/TRANS/240, para. 105 and ECE/TRANS/2014/26, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
I. Proposal

Paragraph 2.7., amend to read:

"2.7. "Pause function" means a mechanism to halt temporarily the operation of an AVAS."

Paragraph 6.2.6., amend to read:

"6.2.6. Pause function shall be prohibited.

The manufacturer may install a function for temporary deactivation of the AVAS. Any other deactivation function, which does not satisfy the specification below, is prohibited.

6.2.6.1. The function shall be located so that it is operable by the driver in a normal seating position.

6.2.6.2. In the case when the pause function is activated, the suspension of AVAS has to be clearly indicated to the driver.

6.2.6.3. The AVAS shall be reactivated when the vehicle is started upon each vehicle turn-off.

6.2.6.4. Owner’s manual information

If a pause function is installed, the manufacturer shall provide the owner with information (e.g. in the owner’s manual) on its effect:

"The pause function of the Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System (AVAS) shall not be used unless for an obvious lack of necessity to emit sound for alert in the surrounding area and that it is certain that there are no pedestrians within the short distance."

Paragraph 11., amend to read:

"11. Transitional provisions

11.1. Until 30 June 2019 ISO 10844:1994 may be applied as an alternative to ISO 10844:2014 to check compliance of the test track as described in Annex 3, paragraph 2.1.2. of this Regulation.

11.2. As from the official date of entry into force of the 01 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant or refuse to accept type approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 01 series of amendments.

11.3. As from [1 July 2019], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant type approvals only if the vehicle type to be approved meets the requirements of this Regulation as amended by the 01 series of amendments.

11.4. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not refuse to grant extensions of type approvals for existing types which have been granted according to the preceding series of amendments to this Regulation.

11.5. Until [30 June 2021], no Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall refuse national or regional type approval of a vehicle type-approved to the 00 series of amendments to this Regulation.

11.6. As from [1 July 2021], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not be obliged to accept, for the purpose of national or regional type
approval, a vehicle type approved to the 00 series of amendments to this Regulation.

11.7. Notwithstanding the transitional provisions above, Contracting Parties whose application of this Regulation comes into force after the date of entry into force of the 01 series of amendments are only obliged to accept type approvals granted in accordance with the 01 series of amendments.”

Annex 1, Addendum to the communication form No ..., Technical Information, item 1.2., amend to read:

"1.2. Description of AVAS (if applicable): ..........
1.2.1. Pause switch (yes/no)
1.2.2.1. Sound at Stationary (yes/no)
1.2.3.1.2. No. of driver selectable sounds (1/2/3/…)
"

II. Justification

Although the current Regulation No. 138 (Quiet road transport vehicles) permits the installation of the pause function as specified in paragraph 6.2.6.1. - 6.2.6.4., an acoustic vehicle alerting system (AVAS) is crucially important for the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, especially of blind people. The pause function deactivates AVAS and should be prohibited.

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