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Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda

Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices) –

Proposals for amendments to the 05 and 06 series of amendments

Proposal for Supplement 18 to the 04 series, Supplement 11 to the 05 series and Supplement 9 to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Submitted by the experts from Germany and the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA)*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from Germany and the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA) to amend Regulation No. 48, following the outcome of the 167th session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) where amendments to Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 on the status indicators for Vehicle Alarm System (VAS), Alarm System (AS) and immobilizer were adopted (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/87 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/91). The proposal aims at defining and specifying the operation of the external status indicator for VAS, AS and the immobilizer. The modifications to the existing text of the Regulation 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

Insert a new paragraph 2.37., to read:

"2.37. "*External status indicator*" means an optical signal mounted on the outside of the vehicle to indicate, when the vehicle is parked, the status or the change of the status of a system. Such an external status is not considered as a lamp under this Regulation."

Insert a new paragraph 5.30., to read:

"5.30. External status indicator

One external status indicator for Vehicle Alarm System (VAS), Alarm System (AS) and immobilizer is allowed if:

- (a) The light intensity in any direction does not exceed 0.5 cd;**
- (b) The colour of the light emitted is white, red or amber;**
- (c) The area of the apparent surface is not larger than 50 cm².**

Up to two external status indicators for Vehicle Alarm System (VAS), Alarm System (AS) and immobilizer are allowed on a vehicle provided that the apparent surface do not exceed 25 cm² per indicator."

II. Justification

1. During the 167th session of WP.29, amendments to Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 were adopted (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/87 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2015/91). In both Regulations, optical signals outside of the vehicle are allowed to indicate the status of the Vehicle Alarm System (VAS), the Alarm System (AS) or the immobilizer. These status indicators now have to fulfil the requirements of Regulation No. 48. While Regulation No. 48 does not address such indicators, WP.29 agreed that an amendment to Regulation No. 48 would be necessary. The representative of Germany volunteered to prepare, together with the experts from OICA, a proposal for such amendments to Regulation No. 48 for consideration at the next GRE session.

2. Regulation No. 48 deals with lamps and not with status indicators. Therefore, the new paragraph 2.37. introduces a definition of such indicators. Furthermore, a system with a light intensity not exceeding 0.5 cd is not considered as a lamp. This means that such indicators should not be treated as lamps. This is being expressed with the new paragraph 5.30.

3. The colour of the light emitted by the "external status indicator" needs to be defined according to Regulation No. 48. To avoid any misunderstanding, only the white, red or amber colours, as defined under paragraph 2.29., are allowed.

4. The area of the apparent surface of the status indicator lamp needs to be defined to avoid any misuse in the future, in particular for the retrofitting of vehicles in use.

5. Should lamps installed on the vehicle be allowed to indicate the status of VAS, AS or the immobilizer, this possibility has to be mentioned in the respective subparagraphs of paragraph 6. of Regulation No. 48.

6. As Regulation No. 48 deals with external lighting only, the indicators mentioned in this Regulation can only be installed on the outside of the vehicle (i.e. external indicators).

7. In the requirements of Regulation No. 48, VAS, AS and immobilizer are mentioned as in Regulations Nos. 97 and 116. Therefore, there is no real necessity to mention Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 explicitly in the text of Regulation No. 48. Should they be mentioned, then it would become necessary to mention very precisely the Supplement when both Regulations incorporated a reference to Regulation No. 48.

8. The new amendments to Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 aims to avoid that external indicators are in contradiction to Regulation No. 48. However, the changes made in Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 do not forbid external status displays as they were already allowed in the past. As the changes of Regulations Nos. 97 and 116 will come into force without transitional provisions, it is necessary to amend the 04, 05 and 06 series of amendments to Regulation No. 48.
