Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
Working Party on Noise
Sixty-eighth session
Geneva, 12-14 September 2018

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

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United Nations

ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/66

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I. Attendance

1. The Working Party on Noise (GRB) held its sixty-eighth session from 12 to 14 September 2018 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/Rev.1): Canada, Czech Republic, China, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. An expert from the European Commission (EC) participated. Experts from the following non-governmental organizations also participated: Bureau International Permanent des Associations de Vendeurs et Rechapeurs de pneumatiques (BIPAVER), International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS), European Association of Automotive Suppliers (CLEPA), European Tyre and Rim Technical Organization (ETRTO), Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Imported Tyre Manufacturers Association (ITMA) and International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA).

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)


2. GRB considered and adopted the agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/5 and Add.1) as well as noted the running order proposed by the Chair (GRB-68-05). The list of informal documents is contained in Annex I. The list of GRB informal groups is reproduced in Annex IV.

III. UN Regulation No. 9 (Noise of three-wheeled vehicles) (agenda item 2)


3. The expert from the European Commission proposed to introduce additional sound emission provisions (ASEP) for $L_4$ and $L_5$ category vehicles with the power-to-mass ratio (PMR) of more than 50 W/kg (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/7 and GRB-68-22). GRB adopted the proposals, as amended (Annex II), and requested the secretariat to submit them to WP.29 and to the Administrative Committee (AC.1) for consideration and vote at their March 2019 sessions as draft 08 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 9.

IV. UN Regulation No. 41 (Noise emissions of motorcycles): Development (agenda item 3)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/11

4. The expert from IMMA proposed amendments which make additional sound emission provisions (ASEP) testing mandatory (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/11). GRB adopted the proposals and requested the secretariat to submit them to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2019 sessions as a draft Supplement 7 to the 04 series of amendments UN Regulation No. 41.
V. UN Regulation No. 51 (Noise of M and N categories of vehicles) (agenda item 4)

A. Development

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/10, Informal document GRB-68-02

5. The expert from the Informal Working Group on Additional Sound Emission Provisions (IWG ASEP) proposed amendments aimed at updating and revising Supplement 4 to the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51 (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/10). GRB adopted the proposals and requested the secretariat to submit them to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2019 sessions as a draft Supplement 5 to the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51, subject to the following modifications:

Page 2, lines 2 and 3, for Figure 3c read Figure 4c.
Page 3, table, row 3, last column, for l_{veh} read l.

6. The expert from China raised questions on choosing tyres for the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51 as well as for UN Regulations Nos. 30, 54 and 117 on tyres (GRB-68-02). The experts from the Russian Federation and ETRTO commented on the raised issues and invited the expert from China to discuss them bilaterally.

B. Additional sound emission provisions

Documentation: Informal documents GRB-68-03, GRB-68-20 and GRB-68-21

7. On behalf of IWG ASEP, the expert from Germany presented their status report to GRB (GRB-68-20) and updated Terms of Reference (ToR) (GRB-68-21). GRB adopted the revised Terms of Reference, as laid down in Annex III, and requested the Chair of GRB to invite WP.29, at its November 2018 session, to extend the mandate of IWG ASEP until September 2020.

8. The expert from IWG ASEP presented GRB-68-03 on interpreting the general ASEP provisions in the last sentence of paragraph 6.2.3. of the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51. IWG ASEP was of the view that the developed definitions and specifications were adequate and valid enough to satisfy the intention of this sentence. Outside the specified control range, IWG ASEP deemed it difficult to provide viable specifications. IWG ASEP suggested that the provided interpretation be used as guidance for manufacturers, technical services, and type approval authorities for the practical application during type approval, conformity of production, and market surveillance.

9. GRB endorsed GRB-68-03 and requested the secretariat to publish it as a reference document under a special folder on the GRB website. GRB also recommended IWG ASEP to keep this document for further consideration within the ongoing revision process of ASEP.

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

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/6
10. The expert from Germany presented a new series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 92 which introduce requirements for non-original replacement exhaust silencing systems (NORESS). GRB adopted the proposals and requested the secretariat to submit them to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2019 sessions as a draft 02 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 92.

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

Documentation: Informal documents GRB-68-27

11. The expert from the Netherlands recalled his earlier proposals on strengthening the tyre noise limits and reported on new developments in this field (GRB-68-27), including a proposal for the new European Regulation on General Safety. Finally, he sought consent of GRB for transforming GRB-66-03, which had proposed stricter noise limits, into a working document for the next session of GRB. The experts of Norway and CAETS generally supported the idea of reducing noise limits in UN Regulation No. 117. The expert of ETRTO recalled their comments presented at the previous session (GRB-67-08). The expert from EC pointed out that the proposal for the new European Regulation was still under discussion. For this reason, the Chair felt that it would be premature to submit an official document with the new tyres limits to the next session.

VIII. UN Regulation No. 138 (Quiet road transport vehicles) (agenda item 7)

Documentation: Informal document GRB-68-13

12. On behalf of the Chair of IWG on Quiet Road Transport Vehicle UN GTR (QRTV UN GTR), the expert of the United States of America informed GRB about the outcome of a meeting in Baltimore, United States of America, on 30 and 31 May 2018. She pointed out that the objective of the session was to provide a detailed comparison between UN Regulation No. 138 on QRTV, the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) on Minimum Sound Requirements for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles, as well as of other regional (the European Union) or national (Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea) regulations in this area. She indicated that the full comparison report would be presented to the November 2018 session of WP.29 with a request to provide guidance on further direction of work. GRB took note of this information and mandated the Chair to request WP.29 and/or AC.3 to extend the mandate of QRTV UN GTR until December 2019.

13. The expert from OICA proposed to clarify the scope and some provisions of UN Regulation No. 138 (GRB-68-13) and asked GRB experts to provide their comments. Following a brief exchange of views, GRB invited OICA to consider issuing an official document for the next session.

IX. Draft UN Regulation on reversing alarm (agenda item 8)

Documentation: Informal documents GRB-68-25 and GRB-68-26

14. On behalf of the Task Force on Reverse Warning (TF-RW), the expert from Japan reported on the TF-RA activities (GRB-68-25) and guidelines adopted by TF-RW. GRB took note of this information. GRB also noted that TF-RW would submit an informal
document with a draft UN Regulation to the September 2019 session and a formal proposal to the January 2020 session of GRB.

X. Collective amendments (agenda item 9)

15. No proposals were considered under this agenda item.

XI. Exchange of information on national and international requirements on noise levels (agenda item 10)


16. The expert from the Netherlands provided information on the 2018 update of the so-called Piek national regulation in the Netherlands on delivery noise of trucks (GRB-68-10, GRB-68-28) and solicited comments from GRB experts. He also requested GRB to include this subject in its long-term programme of work. The expert of OICA pointed out that the Piek measurement method should be harmonized with the loading conditions in the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No.51 and volunteered to take over this issue.

XII. Influence of road surface on tyre rolling sound emissions (agenda item 11)


17. The expert from Norway reported on the outcome of the NordTyre projects conducted between 2011 and 2017 (GRB-68-09). According to him, for typical Nordic road surfaces, a good correlation between the actual noise levels and tyre noise labels had not been established. The expert from OICA was of the view that the tyre labelling systems would need to be improved and pointed out that both road surfaces and tyres equally contribute to the noise produced by the "tyre-surface" system by giving a 4 db(A) variation in the test results. The expert from ETRTO mentioned that the ISO 10844 standard on test tracks was under revision and that new test tracks would reduce by half the dispersion in the results.

18. The expert from the Netherlands presented a draft Resolution on Road Surface Labelling and background documents (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/8, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/9, GRB-68-08-Rev.1, GRB-68-29). Various experts expressed concerns that the substance of the proposed resolution goes beyond the scope of GRB and WP.29. They also pointed out potential difficulties in the possible implementation of the resolution at the national level, due to the fact that road pavements normally fall within the competence of a separate governmental agency which is not responsible for road vehicles. The expert from ETRTO commented on the draft resolution and pointed out that he would need more background information to evaluate the proposal (GRB-68-11). He also called for establishing a joint task force with the participation of the road construction industry.

19. Given the above comments, GRB was of the view that it would be premature to adopt the draft Resolution at this session and advocated the idea of consulting the road construction industry and establishing a task force which would report back to GRB. GRB
noted that the Netherlands might not be in a position to lead such a taskforce. The Chair pointed out his intention to seek the views of the Administrative Committee for the Coordination of Work (AC.2) and/or WP.29 on the scope of the draft resolution. Finally, GRB decided to review this subject at the next session and noted that the expert of the Netherlands, with the assistance of the expert from the Russian Federation, would slightly redraft the text of the resolution.

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

20. No issues were considered under this item.

XIV. Development of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval system and involvement of the Working Parties in it (agenda item 13)

Documentation: Informal document GRB-68-19

21. In reply to the concerns raised by the Informal Working Group on the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWG IWVTA) at the 175th session of WP.29 (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1139, para. 67), the expert from the Russian Federation proposed to align the provisions of UN Regulation No. 117 related to approval numbers and markings with the provisions of Schedule 4 to the 1958 Agreement (GRB-68-19). The expert for ETRTO stated that he would contribute to the document. The Chair invited other experts to provide their comments to the expert of the Russian Federation with a view to producing an official document for consideration at the next session.

XV. Highlights of the March and June 2018 sessions of WP.29 (agenda item 14)

Documentation: Informal document GRB-68-04

22. The secretariat reported on the highlights of the March and June 2018 sessions of WP.29. In particular, GRB noted that, following a request of the Inland Transport Committee, WP.29 had decided to convert the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) into a new Working Party "Groupe de Rapporteurs pour les Véhicules Autonomes" (GRVA) and to reallocate some former GRRF activities to other Working Parties. In particular, all GRRF activities on tyres had been passed on to GRB, and the WP.29 programme of work had been modified accordingly. In order to explicitly reflect the new GRB responsibilities on tyre-related issues WP.29 proposed adapting the title of GRB to GRBP (Groupe Rapporteur Bruit et Pneumatiques). A final decision on this point would be taken at the November 2018 session of WP.29.

23. The Chair pointed out that, given the enlarged scope of GRB activities, it would need longer sessions to properly address all items. He requested the secretariat to explore the possibilities of adjusting the WP.29 calendar for 2019.
XVI. Exchange of views on the future work of GRB (agenda item 15)

*Documentation:* Informal document GRB-68-06

24. The Chair introduced a revised document on priorities of the future work (GRB-68-06) and indicated that it should be updated with tyre-related issues. To this extent, he would convene an informal meeting in Brussels on 31 October 2018.

XVII. Other business (agenda item 16)

25. GRB noted that Messrs. H.-P. Bietenbeck (OICA), S. Falcioni (ETRTO), C. Sliggers (Netherlands) and M. Suzuki (Japan) would no longer attend GRB meetings, either due to a change in functions or retirement. GRB thanked them for their contributions and wished them success in the future.

XVIII. Provisional agenda for the sixty-ninth session (agenda item 17)

26. For its sixty-ninth session, scheduled to be held in Geneva in January 2019, GRB decided to keep the same structure of the provisional agenda, subject to the addition of a new consolidated item on all tyre-related issues. GRB noted that the deadline for the submission of official documents to the secretariat would be 31 October 2018, twelve weeks prior to the session.

XIX. Election of officers (agenda item 18)

27. 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 for the year 2019.

XX. Tyres (agenda item 19)


28. The expert from ETRTO proposed amendments to UN Regulations Nos. 30 and 64 which introduce provisions related to extended mobility tyres (EMT) (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/2018/6, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/2018/7 and GRB-68-14). He pointed out that EMT were already available on the market and needed to be regulated. The experts from Germany, Italy and Japan supported the proposals. The experts from France, Netherlands and Switzerland posed questions. The expert from UK requested data on the availability of EMT on the market. GRB was of the view that Contracting Parties needed more time to study the proposals and decided to defer this item
to the next session. Meanwhile, GRB experts were invited to study the proposals and send their remarks to ETRTO.

29. The expert from ETRTO proposed to clarify the scope of UN Regulation No. 106 (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/2018/8). GRB adopted the proposals and requested the secretariat to submit them to WP.29 and AC.1 for consideration and vote at their March 2019 sessions as a draft Supplement 17 to the original series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 106, subject to the following modifications:

*Paragraph 1.2. (new)*, amend to read:

"1.2. This UN Regulation does not apply to the following tyres:"

30. The expert from ETRTO introduced draft amendments to UN Regulation No. 117 (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRVA/2018/5 and GRB-68-12). The proposal received comments from the experts of Germany, Spain, United States of America and BIPAVER. The Chair invited other experts to transmit their remarks to ETRTO with a view to submitting a revised consolidated proposal to the next session.

31. The expert of ETRTO presented an overview of activities of the tyre industry and ISO with the aim to improve wet grip test method for passenger car tyres (C1) (GRB-68-15). GRB took note of this information.

32. The expert of the Russian Federation, in his capacity of Chair of IWG on Tyres dealing with the development of Amendment 2 to UN GTR No. 16 (IWG Tyre GTR), presented their progress report (GRB-68-16) as well as a proposal for an addendum to the authorization (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/48) to develop Amendment No. 2 to UN GTR No. 16 (GRB-68-07). GRB took note of the status report and agreed that the proposed addendum to ECE/TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/48 should be submitted to the Executive Committee of the 1998 Agreement (AC.3).

33. In connection with the activities of IWG Tyre GTR, the expert from United States of America presented the outcome of the North American all-season tyre pre-meeting (GRB-68-17). The expert of ETRTO briefly introduced proposals for amendments to UN GTR No. 16 which would be presented in detail at the next session of GRB (GRB-68-18). The expert of ETRTO reported on developing a harmonized high speed test based on the two such tests listed in UN GTR No. 16, namely the one based on UN Regulation No. 30 and the other one based on the American Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 139 (GRB-68-24).

34. On behalf of IWG Tyre GTR, the expert from the Russian Federation introduced a concept “Global Tyre” and a relevant marking to open a dialogue among the Contracting Parties to the 1998 Agreement to assess the feasibility of the proposed approach (GRRF-86-22).

35. The expert from Germany presented a status report of the group of interested experts from Finland, France, Germany, Japan and Russian Federation, BIPAVER and ETRTO on snow tyre provisions (GRB-68-23).

36. GRB noted that informal document GRB-68-01 on the performance of used tyres, that had been announced in the provisional agenda, would be submitted to the next session.
Annex I

List of informal documents (GRB-68-...) distributed during the session

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<td>Guidelines for the Task Force on Reverse Warning</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Resolution on road surface labelling: presentation</td>
<td>(b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 an informal document.
(d) Adopted and to be submitted to WP.29.
Annex II

Adopted amendments to ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2018/7

New subparagraphs 11.9. - 11.13., amend to read:

"11.9. As from the official date of entry into force of the 08 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this UN Regulation shall refuse to grant or refuse to accept type approvals under this UN Regulation as amended by the 08 series of amendments.

11.10. As from 1 September following the entry into force of the 08 series of amendments + 12 months, Contracting Parties applying this UN Regulation shall not be obliged to accept UN type approvals to the preceding series of amendments, first issued after that date.

11.11. Until 1 September of (year of date in paragraph 11.10. above) + 36 months, Contracting Parties applying this UN Regulation shall accept UN type approvals to the preceding series of amendments, first issued before (date in paragraph 11.10 above).

11.12. As from 1 September of (year of date in paragraph 11.10. above) + 36 months, Contracting Parties applying this UN Regulation shall not be obliged to accept UN type approvals issued to the preceding series of amendments to this Regulation.

11.13. Notwithstanding paragraph 11.12., Contracting Parties applying this UN Regulation shall continue to accept UN type approvals issued according to the preceding series of amendments to this UN Regulation, for the vehicles/vehicle systems which are not affected by the changes introduced by the 08 series of amendments."

New Annex 6, paragraph 3.1., replace "defined in paragraph 3.2. below" with "defined in paragraph 3.3. below".
Annex III

Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on Annex 7 "Additional Sound Emission Provisions (ASEP)" to the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51 and to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No.41

A. Introduction

1. Within the informal group for the future work of GRB and during the sixty-second, sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions of GRB, several concerns about ASEP were presented:
   - Updating and simplification of the text to improve its clarity in the short term.
   - Missing sound limit values for N₁ and off-road vehicles in Annex 7, paragraph 5.3.
   - New test methods would be necessary in Regulation No. 51 for serial hybrid vehicles that are excluded from ASEP until 30 June 2019.
   - ASEP as part of type approval (not as a manufacturer declaration).
   - ASEP as an important element of a “toolbox” (Annexes 3 and 7, periodic technical inspections, manipulations, after-market silencers, better conditions for road checks, etc.) deemed to tackle elements of real-world sound emissions, to be revised preliminary to future legislative initiatives modifying type approval sound limits.
   - More general technical review in cooperation with ISO (improvement of methods).
   - Proposal to create an IWG for ASEP starting in 2016.

2. This proposal establishes the Terms of Reference of a new IWG ASEP (for UN Regulations Nos. 41 and 51 under the 1958 Agreement).

3. The aim of the group is to propose improvements to these Regulations.


4. The scope and objective are based on Informal document GRB-64-16.

5. The scope shall initially cover M₁ and N₁ and L₃ categories.

6. As a primary objective, IWG ASEP shall:

   In the short term (for the sessions of GRB from September 2018 to September 2019)
   - Interpretation of paragraph 6.2.3. of the 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 51.
   - Data collections for all driving conditions of existing vehicles of categories M₁, N₁ and L₃.
   - Correlation of data with existing or new models.

   In the mid and long-term
   - review and improve test procedure for automatic transmission in non-locked transmission condition.
prove a test procedure for hybrid vehicles and new technologies of vehicles.

propose a simplified test procedure and/or alternative test (such as in-door testing) to save time and to enable direct application of ASEP during type approval.

7. In addition, IWG ASEP might also propose a general principle for revision of ASEP regarding:

- Consideration of scope and target to elaborate on sound behaviours that are subject to criticism.
- Improve the effectiveness of the method regarding off-cycle tests, etc.
- Field of application.
- Control range (method to be more representative for urban driving behaviour).
- Consider harmonization with ASEP in Regulation No. 41.

8. IWG ASEP shall report to GRB.

C. Rules of Procedure

9. IWG ASEP shall be open to all participants of GRB. However, it is recommended that a maximum of two technical experts per country and organization participate in IWG.

10. IWG shall be chaired by Germany/China and co-chaired by Japan. OICA shall act as Secretary.

11. The working language shall be English.

12. All documents and/or proposals shall be submitted to the Secretary of IWG in a suitable electronic format at least one week before a scheduled meeting.

13. An agenda and the latest draft document shall be circulated to all members of IWG in advance of all scheduled meetings.

14. All IWG documentation shall be made available on the dedicated UNECE website.

D. Timeline

15. The aim of IWG is to present working documents for consideration at the GRB sessions and a detailed elaborated work plan and timeline. IWG will present progress reports, including already achieved further results, and comprehensive proposals by September 2020 and/or, for each category, targeting a timeframe to be preferably concluded or at least sufficiently maturated before any legislation initiative to lower sound limit values starts.
## Annex IV

### GRB informal groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Informal group</th>
<th>Chair(s) and Co-chair(s)</th>
<th>Secretary</th>
<th>Expiry date of the mandate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiet road transport vehicles (QRTV) for GTR</td>
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