Road safety
Agenda item 5(c)
WP.1 is the only permanent body in the United Nations system that focuses on improving road safety; custodian of the legal instruments harmonizing traffic rules and road user behavior

Legal Instruments represent a “common language” (ie., rights and obligations)

Being a Contracting Party means :
- Harmonization – Conventions enshrine shared and acknowledged road safety principles

- Work together on the follow up and updating process of the legal instruments
WP.1 agenda:

Present and future challenges
From static administration to dynamic rule maker
• 1949 and 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic

• Lights and light signalling
• International driving permits
• Automated driving and road safety principles
• Safe System Approach
• Distracted driving

• Revision of the terms of reference and rules of procedure

Sustainable Development Goals: Potential contribution to 3.6 and 11.2 of the 2030 Agenda
• Inclusive development
• Sustainable mobility
• Actions to implement GA resolution A/RES/72/271
• UN SG Special Envoy for Road Safety
Safe deployment of automated vehicles in traffic:

The shift from Human Centric Driving role to Systems Engagement in the driving task – traffic as complex Environment, AI, Deep Learning and

Legal instruments vs fast pace of automotive technology - Challenge of bridging past and future

Dusting off the Convention legislation & the need of a flexible, replicable & lived - in legal instrument to follow closely (and not hamper) technological progress

Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) Resolution on the deployment of highly and fully automated vehicles in road traffic
Global outreach:

Legal instruments should also set the appropriate legal references bearing into account exogenous influential factors, such as Population / morphing urban environment: Age of megacities, policentric axes and mass mobility demand, traffic volume

Engineering human communities safe mobility (SDG 3.6, 11.2, Quito Declaration), better quality of life through easy access to opportunities, solving gender/social inequalities

- IRTE – Gov India-UNESCAP focus on South East Asia
- Powered two wheelers, vulnerable road users

- EUROMED – North Africa and Middle East
- Accessions to UN legal instruments- 25th March 2019 Celebrative Momentum
SOCIO-ETHICAL PROBLEM - UMANITARIAN CRISIS

Low- and middle-income countries have just 54% of the world's vehicles — but 90% of the world's road traffic deaths.

• Importance on optimizing the UNRSTF – Launched in NY on 12 Aprile 2018
Group of Expert on Road Signs and Signals:

- Request to endorse WP.1 decision to extend the mandate of GERSS to 30 June 2019
- e-CORSS proceeding as planned, roll out expected in 2019
50 years on, the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals are still at the core of road safety efforts worldwide

Published: 08 November 2018

At the turn of their 50th anniversary, the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals from 1968 are more relevant than ever. Whether helping to address the most critical road safety needs, or facilitating the development of automated driving functionalities, reference to these legal texts, which are evolving with technological developments, is a necessity for countries around the world.

The two Conventions have a global scope and are important frameworks facilitating international road traffic through uniform traffic rules and harmonized road signs, signals, symbols and markings. With the increase in motor vehicles observed over the past decades and its expected rise in emerging economies – contributing to the anticipated doubling of the number of cars on the roads worldwide by 2040 – the principles of the Conventions are key to improving road safety standards around the world, particularly in low and medium-income countries where 90% of road fatalities occur.

https://www.unece.org/?id=50376
The 50th anniversary of the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals

Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1)

25 March 2019, 10.00 - 17.30, Salle IX, Palais des Nations
Thank you!

Ms. Luciana Iorio, WP.1 Chair
Date 20 I February I 2019, Geneva