Several Items of the ECE Regulations Nos. 36 & 52
Required To Be Specified

Transmitted by the Expert from the Russian Federation

The Russian Federation, being the Contracting Party of the 1958 Geneva Agreement joined the ECE Regulations nos. 36 & 52 regarding bus design in 1987, during a long period of time applies the specifications of the mentioned Regulations in the bus design development process, and from 1993 applies those Regulations in the National Certification System. The experience of the Russian Federation in use of the mentioned Regulations has highlighted several items allowing different explanation of the terms and definitions, and, consequently, their application.

In particular, the Experts from the Russian Federation would like to attract the attention to the following items of the ECE Regulations Nos. 36 (Buses) and 52 (Small Buses).

As a definition, according to the ECE Regulations No. 36, "a vehicle" means "...a vehicle designed and equipped for the public transport..." This definition as well as the heading of the ECE Regulations No. 52: "Small capacity public service vehicles" may become reasons for assuming that the scope of the application of the mentioned Regulations concerns only the vehicles (buses) being used on the regular routes of the public (municipal) transport. Although, there are many buses in the private property of the companies and individuals, which they use as they want to.

There is a practice, when for the buses not involved in the public transportation on the regular routes, but used, for example, for the purpose of transporting people to their working place, transporting of schoolchildren, hotel shuttles, etc., the requirements different to those specified in the ECE Regulations Nos. 36 and 52 are applied.

In this regard, the Russian party invites to participate in discussion of the contracting parties of the 1958 Geneva Agreement applying the mentioned Regulations, concerning the following subjects:

1. What kind of degree of compliance of the mentioned buses to the specifications of the ECE Regulations Nos. 36 & 52 shall be set obligatory;

2. Do the vehicles meaning "a vehicle designed and equipped for the public transport" and "small capacity public service vehicles" include the buses not used for municipal transportation on regular routes, but used for transportation of passengers (like transporting people to their working place, transporting of schoolchildren, hotel shuttles, etc.).

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