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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

(One-hundred-and-thirty-first session,

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PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A *RESOLUTION ON*

*"UNIFORM PROVISIONS SETTING FORTH COMMON DEFINITIONS AND
PROCEDURES TO BE USED IN GLOBAL TECHNICAL REGULATIONS (gtr 0)"*

Revision 1

Transmitted by the representative of Japan

Note: This document is submitted by Japan to The Executive Committee (AC.3) for consideration. It contains a proposal for developing a resolution on "Uniform provisions setting forth common definitions and procedures to be used in global technical regulation (gtr 0)", regarding common tasks, to be developed for the 1998 Agreement concerning the establishing of Global Technical Regulations for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles. The document reproduced below is a consolidation of document TRANS/WP.29/2003/17 and document TRANS/WP.29/2003/51. It takes into account the amendments agreed during the eighth session of the Executive Committee (AC.3), including those contained in a document distributed during the session without a symbol (informal document No. AC.3-1) that was submitted by Japan for consideration. The amended text of the document is marked in **bold** characters.

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<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp29.htm>

Objective of the proposal

At the one-hundred-and-twentieth session of WP.29, the Japanese Government proposed in document TRANS/WP.29/2000/33 to solve common problems of definitions of the category, mass and dimensions of vehicles. *In order to decide which types of requirements and which levels of stringency are appropriate for adoption in global technical regulations, it is necessary to have a common understanding of which vehicles will be covered. Japan proposed to create that common understanding by establishing agreed upon definitions.* Japan's proposal was based on the experience that had been gained after Japan signed the 1958 Agreement in November 1998, started adopting ECE Regulations and had difficulties in solving several similar problems. Those challenges urged Japan to propose identifying the predictable problems and finding solutions for the Contracting Parties to the 1998 Agreement. The proposal is aimed at harmonizing the commonly given definitions of the category, dimensions and mass of vehicles in all gtrs to help the Contracting Parties in establishing and adopting gtrs.

This gtr 0 applies to all wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts falling within the scope of the Agreement concerning the establishing of global technical regulations for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts, which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles.

The establishment of the definitions of the category, mass and dimensions of vehicles will help us establish gtrs that internationally improve the safety and environmental protection features of automobiles, *and that will reduce development and manufacturing costs as well as costs to consumers.*

Description of the proposed gtr 0

In identifying the problems common to gtrs, the following points should be taken into consideration:

1. "Common definitions" shall be developed as basic elements for the gtrs.
 - Common definitions of category, mass and dimensions *or any other subject in common to several gtrs* shall be developed on the assumption that they will be primarily used for gtrs subject to the 1998 Global Agreement.
 - *This document is not a gtr in the sense that it does not contain performance requirements as listed under Article 4. Therefore, this document does not trigger obligations of article 7 requiring contracting parties to initiate procedures for adopting gtrs.*
 - *In drafting new or amended gtrs, Contracting Parties to the 1998 Agreement shall directly use the same definition prescribed in this gtr 0 by using the same language in each gtr.*
2. "Common definitions" shall be developed from the technical point of view, and shall not necessarily be linked to any social systems such as taxation, driving license, etc.

- Common definitions of category, mass and dimensions *or any other subject in common to several gtrs* shall be developed primarily for the purpose of governing the technical requirements and test procedures.
 - Even after these definitions for the 1998 Global Agreement are adopted *in this document*, Contracting Parties to the Agreement do not need to change their social systems currently in effect, such as taxation, insurance rates, toll fares, drivers' licenses, etc. in accordance with the new definitions.
3. ***Only "common definitions" for basic terms necessary to define the vehicle categories and characteristics of obvious use in the formulation of safety regulations shall be developed based on present-day definitions of contracting parties and relevant international standards.***
4. Procedures for developing "common definitions"
- When adopted or developed gtrs include common definitions of category, mass, and dimensions *or any other subject in common to several gtrs*, WP.29 may request GRSG to examine them whether they should be added to *gtr 0*.
 - *Amending gtr 0 should be pursuant to the procedure prescribed in Paragraph 6.4, Article 6 of the 1998 Agreement.*
 - *The Contracting Party, which proposes the amendments of the gtr 0, should also submit the amendment proposals relating to the definitions of all gtrs currently in force.*

This proposal for a *gtr 0* (attached sheets) 1/ *sponsored by Japan is based on the work of* the GRSG informal group that *met* from October 2000 to October 2002, and took the above points into account.

The formal deliberation on the proposal for the *gtr 0* is at GRSG for approval and is scheduled during the *eighty-fifth* GRSG session in *October 2003*.

Existing Regulations and Directives

There are no regulations currently contained in the Compendium of Candidates. The following statutes and regulations were taken into account during development of the new global technical regulation regarding common definitions and procedures for use in Global Technical Regulations.

Europe: ECE Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3)
EU Directive 70/156/EEC Type Approval

1/ Note by the secretariat: not furnished with the current proposal. *The proposal is being considered by GRSG (TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/2003/10/Rev.1)*

USA: National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and 49 CFR 571.3
Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act
Clean Air Act and 40 CFR 86

Japan: Road Vehicles Act

International voluntary standards

ISO 612 Road vehicles - Dimensions of motor vehicles and towed vehicles- Terms and definitions
ISO 1176 Road vehicles - Masses- vocabulary and codes
