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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

REPORTS OF THE

**WORLD FORUM FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE REGULATIONS
ON ITS 150TH SESSION
(9–12 March 2010)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 1958 AGREEMENT
ON ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION (10 March 2010)**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 1998 AGREEMENT
ON ITS TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION (10–11 MARCH 2010)**

AND

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 1997 AGREEMENT
ON ITS EIGHTH SESSION**

Addendum

This document contains the terms of reference and rules of procedures of the informal group established to develop a procedure for the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval in the framework of the 1958 Agreement adopted by the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) at its 150th session (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1083, para. 62).

**TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INFORMAL
GROUP ON THE FUTURE DIRECTION FOR HARMONIZATION OF VEHICLE
REGULATIONS UNDER THE 1958 AGREEMENT**

I. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The objective of the informal group is to assist the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) in considering actions on the future direction for the harmonization of vehicle regulations under the 1958 Agreement. This future direction should aim at fostering the participation of more countries and regional economic integration organizations in the activities of the World Forum and to increase the number of Contracting Parties to the Agreement, by improving its functioning and reliability, and thus ensuring that it remains the key international framework for the harmonization of technical regulations in the automotive sector.
2. To fulfil this objective the informal group shall, as a first step, make an inventory of the elements which it considers should be addressed in a review of the 1958 Agreement, taking into account contributions by Contracting Parties and non-governmental organizations, and establish a roadmap for addressing these elements as a recommendation to WP.29.
3. In doing so, the informal group shall give particular attention to the procedures for developing, amending and adopting technical regulations for motor vehicles, and their implementation by Contracting Parties, and also to the conditions for granting type approvals and their mutual recognition. Other elements to be included for consideration are the methods for conformity assessment and certification procedures, including the responsibilities and competence of involved parties and aspects related to enforcement, such as ensuring conformity of production, market surveillance, safeguard measures and dispute settlement procedures.
4. The informal group shall submit the inventory and roadmap for the future direction on the harmonization of vehicle regulations to the World Forum for consideration, the latest, at its 155th session in November 2011.
5. The target completion date for the work of the informal group shall be the 168th session of the World Forum in March 2016.
6. This target completion date will be reviewed in November 2011, taking into account the assessment by the World Forum of the inventory and roadmap submitted by the informal group for consideration.
7. Final decisions on proposals will be adopted by the World Forum and the Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement.

II. RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. The informal group is a sub group of the World Forum and is open to all participants of WP.29.
 2. A Chair and a Secretary will manage the informal group.
 3. The official language of the informal group will be English.
 4. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of the informal group in a suitable electronic format in advance of the meetings. The informal group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated 10 working days in advance of the scheduled meeting.
 5. An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the informal group in advance of all scheduled meetings.
 6. Proposals will be developed by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Chair of the informal group shall present the different points of view to the World Forum. The Chair may seek guidance from WP.29 as appropriate.
 7. The progress of the informal group will be routinely reported to the World Forum, wherever possible as an informal document and presented by the Chair or his/her representative.
 8. All working documents should be distributed in digital format. Meeting documents should be made available to the UNECE secretariat for publication on the website of the World Forum.
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