

Particle Measurement Programme (PMP)
 UNECE Ad Hoc Group

Minutes of 1st meeting of the “Particulates Measurement Programme” Group.
Palais des Nations, Geneva 31/5/2001.

Chairman: Mr Mike Dunne.
 Secretary: Mr Bernie Frost.

Documents.

PMP/0/1	Informal Doc. #1 – GRPE 41	UK
PMP/0/2	Terms of Reference	GRPE 41
PMP/1/1	PMP Programme Overview.	UK
PMP/1/2	Agenda.	
PMP/1/3	Laser Induced Incandescence Instrument.	Canada
PMP/1/4	Attendance List	
PMP/1/5	ABEME – PM Measurement System	RWTÜV
PMP/1/6	TTM Presentation	Mr Mayer
PMP/1/7	ABEME Presentation	Mr Schulte
PMP/1/8	Ricardo Presentation	Mr Andersson

Discussion.

The chairman gave a résumé of the background to the establishment of the ad hoc group. He referred to the instruction from the EU Environment Council to the EU Commission for a further reduction in particulate emission. He also recalled that the Commission had given a mandate for a request to be made to conduct a programme to develop a new measurement procedure in GRPE.

The chairman suggested that the PMP was a precautionary approach in so far as it is unclear which particles are harmful but that it was necessary to be able to respond to new knowledge in this field. He indicated that, due to the voluntary CO₂ agreement between the motor manufacturers and the European Commission, there was likely to be an increase in the penetration of diesel cars in the European market. This undoubtedly raises concerns about increases in the emission of particulate matter and NO_x. He also recognised that there were existing technologies available to reduce the particulate matter emitted from vehicle exhausts.

OICA restated the concerns that they had raised during the 42nd session of GRPE, these being that industry was not part of the PMP steering group. The chairman explained that he saw the PMP operating at three levels:

- i). An over group who would be responsible for ensuring that the timetable is adhered to,
- ii). a main, general management group, including industry, who will consider the emerging knowledge from the PMP programme, and
- iii). an expert group of those actively engaged in the research. This group will regularly liaise with other participants to the programme. This liaison may be by meetings or electronic information exchange.

It was explained that the PMP was not a forum for manufacturers to make commercial presentations of their products. However, the group is open and all parties who wish to contribute to the activity are welcome.

OICA welcomed the opportunity to become involved and agreed that the group should not be a shop window for individual products. However, they were still concerned that the “Steering Group” was seen as the decision making body.

For the Netherlands, Dr Havenith, suggested that further explanation of the role of the different levels of the PMP would be helpful but reminded the group that, although the programme was being developed under the GRPE, the objective was to respond to the questions raised by the European Council. He recalled a previous piece of work for the Council where industry had been allowed to develop the proposals but had failed to meet the deadline and he wanted to be sure that this would not happen with the PMP.

The chairman suggested that the term “steering group” should be replaced with the term “PMP working group” and that this group should comprise the members of the GRPE.

For the USA, Mrs Armstrong indicated that they were still interested in developing mass based systems of measurement and were therefore not too likely to become involved in the PMP work directly. She questioned how US instrument manufacturers might become involved. The group felt that instrument manufacturers would be involved as part of their involvement in specific associated research programmes.

CONCAWE asked how the third level meetings would proceed.

The chairman advised that the UK would host a meeting in London to which all those actively involved in relevant research would be invited. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss progress on ongoing research and on strategies to take the programme forward. He was clear that the meeting was not for the purpose of a general discussion on particulate matter. It was agreed that those delegations that were actively offering research for the programme could attend with up to 4 researchers, those who were not active should perhaps limit their delegations to 1.

The expectation is that the nature and frequency of further meetings of the expert group will be better gauged after this initial meeting.

The chairman asked that all delegations that intended to attend the London meeting leave their contact name with the secretary before the end of the day.

It was confirmed that the PMP Working Group would meet in Geneva on the afternoon of January 15th 2002. It was agreed that, if desirable, a pre meeting could take place in December. It was agreed that any presentations to be made at the PMP Working Group should be provided to the secretary at least one week in advance of the meeting. He would circulate these to members of the group so as to provide adequate time for consideration before the meeting.

Overview of current research programmes.

1. Mr Mayer advised that a literature study had been completed and that some limited testing had already taken place.
2. Mr Schulte gave a presentation of the ABEME project that is studying the use of laser technology.
3. UBA are prepared to start programmes associated with phases II and III of the PMP. They also hope to be able to provide more information on a passenger car, with and without trap.
4. UK has recently finished an extensive programme of research, involving both the auto and oil industries. Specific programmes associated with the PMP programme are about to start.
5. Canada provided a paper describing work associated with laser technology and offered the participation of an expert from the National Research Council.
6. The USA confirmed their ongoing study into mass measurement techniques. They indicated that they had two measurement instruments and that they were still looking at the TEOM.
7. Denmark was engaged in a retrofit programme and also in a study of air quality.

8. For the EU, the JRC indicated their willingness to contribute. They indicated that they would attend the London meeting and may be prepared to start a special programme.

9. OICA reminded the group of their two programmes, one on passenger car emissions and one on heavy duty, that had looked at particulate characterisation, size and technology effect. They advised the group that they were now looking at an extension to the range of vehicles that had been considered and that they expected a report in the autumn. They also indicated that they would attend the London meeting.

10. Japan advised the group that they had research that was similar to that of Canada (laser) and that they were looking at both raw and dilute conditions. Their main concern was to measure under dilution conditions for the purposes of regulation. They also indicated that they were unclear as to which of the particulate characteristics were most important to health and indicated that they needed time to understand this.

11. AECC advised that they were planning a program and that they may be able to offer more information in July.

12. France confirmed that the PMP was important to them and that they were working with research organisations and manufacturers. They hoped to be able to provide more detail in July.

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