

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the GRPE informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles

The GRPE informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV) held its first meeting in Geneva, on 6 June 2008, under the chairmanship of Mr. Christoph Albus (Germany). The list of working papers considered by the group is reproduced in the annex.

I. WELCOME AND ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES

1. The Chairman opened the first informal group meeting and welcomed all participants. He recalled the outcome of the third EFV Conference, held in Dresden (Germany) on 19 and 20 November 2007 (see <http://www.bmvbs.de/g8-2007>) to organize such conference on a regular basis. He announced India's intention to organize the next EFV conference in 2009. He also recalled that, during its November 2007, the World Forum agreed to establish a GRPE informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (see WP.29 report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1064, para. 66). He added that all working papers of the EFV group are publicly available at: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29grpe/efv01.html>

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documentation: Working paper EFV-01-04

2. The EFV group noted the agenda (EFV-01-04) and adopted it without an amendment.

III. OBJECTIVES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Documentation: Informal document WP.29-144-17; Workings papers EFV-01-01 and EFV-01-03

3. Referring to WP.29-144-17, the Chairman recalled the objectives of the EFV group to study the feasibility for the development of an evaluation method of environmentally friendly vehicles. He announced his intention to finalize by mid 2009 the feasibility concept which would be considered at the 150th WP.29 in November 2009 and be presented at the fourth EFV conference, scheduled to be held in New Delhi (India) in November 2009.

4. Referring to EFV-01-01, the expert from OICA fully supported the development of an EFV scheme and announced to give a presentation on a SWOT (Strength-Weakness-Opportunity-Threat) analysis.

5. The Chairman added that the terms of reference and rules of procedures had already been considered and adopted by GRB and GRPE, as reproduced in EFV-01-03. They would be adopted by WP.29 at its June 2008 session, on the basis of Annex V of the GRPE report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/55.

IV. APPROACHES TO AN EFV CONCEPT

Documentation: Working papers EFV-01-02, EFV-01-05, EFV-01-06, EFV-01-07, EFV-01-08 and EFV-01-09

6. Underlining the importance of EFV events, the expert from IEA informed the informal group about the forthcoming conferences hosted by his organization (EFV-01-05). He invited all delegates to participate in the international conference "Revolutionizing the transport sector" which is scheduled to be held at UIC in Paris (France), on 1 October 2008. He announced to provide a summary of that conference at the next GRPE session in January 2009.
7. The expert from the Netherlands introduced EFV-01-06 underlining that, for the assessment of EFV, an integrated approach has to be considered on the basis of an Well-To-Wheel (WTW) analysis, i.e. the production of fuel (Well-To-Tank: WTT) and its use in the vehicle (Tank-To-Wheel: TTW). He added that in this exercise, emissions of pollutants including CO₂ and the whole lifecycle of the vehicle has to be taken into account.
8. The expert from OICA presented EFV-01-02 with the first SWOT results of some possible approaches for the evaluation of EFV, i.e. the Life-cycle Approach (LCA according ISO 14040/44), the WTW analysis, the CO₂-Regulation reference approach, environmental ranking (by consumer associations) and green vehicle certification (e.g. China). The informal group noted a number of comments.
9. The expert from Sweden reported on their national definition of an eco-car and the positive effects of eco-car subsidy in his country (EFV-01-07). He added that for the definition of an EFV, the energy efficiency and the noise level have to be taken into account in addition to the emissions of pollutants, including greenhouse gases.
10. The EC/JRC expert gave a presentation (EFV-01-08) on the WTW analysis for future fuels and powertrains in the European context. He reported on a number of preliminary study results (including the costs) on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles, Hybrid Vehicles (HV), Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Vehicles (HFCV). He added that Electric Vehicles (EV) will also be taken into consideration and that the final study report will be published in 2010.
11. The expert from NGVA Europe introduced EFV-01-09 proposing an example for the score card approach of Natural Gas Vehicles (NGV). He also underlined that, in the future, biogas production on the basis of biomass could have a huge potential for the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions.
12. The EFV informal group noted a number of comments and agreed with the Chairman's conclusion to work on a first concept for the feasibility to develop an evaluation method for EFVs.

V. SCOPE AND PARAMETERS FOR EFV-CONCEPTS TO BE EVALUATED

13. The Chairman suggested deferring this issue to the next informal group's meeting and invited experts to send him their contributions in due time.

VI. INITIATION OF ITEM 1 OF EFV FEASIBILITY PHASE

14. The Chairman suggested deferring this issue to the next informal group's meeting and invited experts to send him their contributions in due time.

VII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. The EFV group noted that no new information was presented under this agenda item.

VIII. NEXT STEPS AND SCHEDULE

16. The informal group agreed to convene again in Geneva prior to the 57th session of GRPE, on Wednesday, 14 January 2009, subject to the consent of GRPE (see GRPE report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/56). The Chairman announced his intention to convene a further EFV meeting in Bonn (Germany), on 30-31 October 2008, in order to prepare a first concept of that feasibility study for consideration at the next GRPE session in January 2009.

17. The Chairman shortly introduced a draft time schedule for the feasibility concept and an outlook of the work to be done by the group in 2008 and 2009. He also announced his intention to circulate that time schedule to all EFV experts and invited to send him, as soon as, possible their comments. Finally, he thanked the experts for their active participation and also for the excellent presentations.

Annex

List of working papers (EFV-01-...) of the 1st Informal group meeting on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles

No.	Transmitted by	Agenda item	Title	Follow -up
01	OICA	4	OICA analysis to support the development of a scheme for an Environmentally Friendly Vehicle (EFV)	(a)
02	OICA	4	SWOT Analysis of different approaches for an Environmentally Friendly Vehicle (EFV)	(a)
03	Germany	3	Terms of Reference for the establishment of an informal group to develop an evaluation concept for Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV)	(a)
04	Chair	-	Agenda of the 1st informal group meeting on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV)	(a)
05	IEA	4	IEA international conferences: Revolutionizing the transport sector	(a)
06	Netherlands/ TNO	4	Possible approach to a concept for an Environmentally Friendly Vehicle	(a)
07	Sweden	4	ECO car subsidy and EFV definitions	(a)
08	EC/JRC	4	Well-to-wheels analysis for future automotive fuels and powertrains in the European context	(a)
09	NGVA Europe	4	Score card approach for EFV	(a)

Notes:

(a) Consideration completed or to be superseded
