

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the GRPE informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles

1. The GRPE informal group on Environmentally Friendly Vehicles (EFV) held its third meeting in Geneva, on 16 January 2009, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ch. Albus (Germany).

I. WELCOME AND ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES

2. The Chairman opened the third informal group meeting and welcomed all participants. He recalled that all working papers of the EFV group are publicly available at: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp29/wp29wgs/wp29grpe/efv02.html>

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Documentation: Working paper EFV-03-01

3. The EFV group noted the agenda (EFV-03-01) and adopted it without an amendment.

III. MEETING MINUTES (2nd EFV INFORMAL GROUP MEETING)

4. The Chairman reported on the progress of work done by the informal group at its second meeting, held in Bonn on 30-31 October 2008. He apologized that the draft minutes of that informal meeting have not yet been finalized.

IV. REPORT ABOUT THE 57TH GRPE (AGENDA ITEM 8. ON EFV)

Documentation: Informal document No. GRPE-57-26

5. Referring to the progress report given at the 57th GRPE session on the EFV informal group's work (GRPE-57-26), the Chairman informed the EFV expert about the decision of GRPE on the questions raised (see GRPE report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/57, para. 46):

- (a) GRPE confirmed its consent that the EFV group should continue its work on the basis of the so-called SWOT methodology (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat).
- (b) With regard to target groups and purposes of the EFV evaluation concept, GRPE preferred to have an in-depth discussion on this issue at its next session in June 2009.
- (c) GRPE recommended not to develop a new regulation on EFV, but to develop the EFV evaluation concept as an addendum to the Special Resolution No. 1 (S.R.1) or to the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3).
- (d) GRPE agreed with the EFV Chairman's proposal to prepare an executive summary on the feasibility concept, for submission to WP.29 at its next session in June 2009 on the basis of an informal document.
- (e) GRPE also agreed that WP.29 should be kept informed, at its March 2009 session, about the progress of work of the EFV group on the basis of an informal document.

V. APPROACHES TO AN EFV CONCEPT

6. The Chairman recalled the various interesting approaches presented at the previous two EFV meetings and mentioned that all the presentations were available at the EFV website. The EFV informal group noted no new presentation was given on this subject.

VI. DRAFT FEASIBILITY STATEMENT

Documentation: Working paper EFV-02-03-Rev.2

7. The expert from Germany introduced the revised proposal (EFV-02-03-Rev.2) regarding the feasibility statement to introduce an evaluation concept for environmentally friendly vehicles. He announced his intention to finalize the document for the June 2009 session of GRPE. The expert from OICA welcomed that proposal, but underlined that a lot of work would still have to be done on possible evaluation criteria and tools, the so-called SWOT (Strength-Weakness-Opportunity-Threat) analysis and its feasibility. The expert from IANGV raised the need to include into the proposal also detailed justifications, as this feasibility statement, once adopted, should serve as basic information for all target groups (i.e. consumers, governmental experts and manufacturers).

8. The expert from IANGV and OICA offered to send their contributions in due time. The expert from the Netherlands volunteered to prepare a proposal for completion of chapter 3. The Chairman underlined the importance of chapter 5 regarding the assessment of the feasibility to introduce an evaluation concept and sought for contributions to this chapter. In this respect, he invited all experts to discuss this subject on their national level and to send him (christoph.albus@bmvs.bund.de) corresponding information as soon as possible. The expert from the Netherlands sought also for international contributions, especially from countries and regions other than European ones.

VII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Documentation: Informal documents Nos. GRPE-57-26 and WP.29-146-24

9. The expert from India recalled the intention of his government to organize the fourth EFV conference, scheduled to be held in New Delhi (India) on 23-24 November 2009. He referred to his recent presentations, given at the November 2008 session of WP.29 and at the January 2009 session of GRPE (WP.29-146-24 and GRPE-57-26). He announced the objective to address this subject in a broader view, e.g. to all types of EFVs including buses and two-wheelers, to the need of developed and developing countries, etc.

VIII. NEXT STEPS AND SCHEDULE

10. The Chairman announced his intention to launch a political discussion on EFV at the March 2009 session of WP.29 and to prepare an executive summary on the feasibility concept, for consideration by WP.29 at its next session in June 2009. He added his intention to organize a further EFV meeting in April 2009. The expert from the EC offered to host this EFV meeting in Brussels on 22-23 April 2009.

11. The informal group also agreed to also convene in Geneva after the 58th session of GRPE, on Friday, 12 June 2009 (see GRPE report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/57, para. 53).
