

Draft UN Regulation on recyclability of motor vehicles

1. Introduction

At its November 2011 session, WP.29 agreed in principle with the OICA proposal (see informal document WP29-155-26) to initiate work to develop a new UN Regulation on recyclability of M₁ and N₁ vehicles to be annexed to the 1958 Agreement.

2. Background for Europe

In Europe, Directive 2005/64/EC on the type approval of motor-vehicles with regard to their reusability, recyclability and recoverability¹ defines the details of a system approval dealing with the determination of the recyclability and recoverability of M₁ and N₁ vehicles, which is based on a virtual process and calculation on the basis of the ISO-standard ISO 22628².

3. Globalization trends in this area

In parallel to the European legislative process also Japan introduced similar legislation³. In the following years further Asian countries have introduced ELV-legislation or started political and technical discussions on this issue. Recently China, India and Russia have started working on such regulations and also Canada, Mexico and Brazil are now looking into this issue.

Whereas some aspects of ELV-recycling – for example the minimum requirements for dismantling companies – depend on the regional or even local situation, all those elements which deal with the design of the vehicle should be globally harmonized, and OICA proposes that this be based on the existing requirements laid down in EU Directive 2005/64/EC for the type approval of vehicle recyclability and on ISO 22628 (calculation of recyclability and/or of recoverability).

4. Status

A draft regulation has been developed by OICA and is now discussed with the European Commission. DG Enterprise has welcomed the approach and announced to support this movement to a UN Regulation under the 58 Agreement. ACEA, as member of OICA, is discussing some details of the draft with DG Enterprise and expects to have an agreed draft proposal within the next weeks.

¹ Directive 2005/64/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 26 October 2005 on the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their reusability, recyclability and recoverability and amending Council Directive 70/156/EEC.

² ISO 22628, First edition 2002-02-15, Road vehicles – Recyclability and recoverability – Calculation method.

³ The Act on Recycling etc. of End- of-Life Vehicles (The Act No. 87 of July 12, 2002)