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Inland Transport Committee

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations**Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling****Eighty-second session**

Geneva, 22-25 October 2019

Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda

UN Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices):**Proposals for amendments to the 05 and 06 series of amendments****Proposal for a Supplement to UN Regulation No. 48
(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)****Submitted by the expert from Germany***

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Germany with the aim to allow the manual switching off all lighting devices in all circumstances for vehicles intended for use by the armed services and forces responsible for maintaining public order. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/274, para. 123 and ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, cluster 3.1), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update UN Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.



I. Proposal

Insert a new paragraph 5.34. to read:

"5.34. The requirements of paragraphs 5.1. to 5.26. do not apply to vehicles intended for use by public authorities responsible for maintaining public order, with regard to the manual switch off of all lighting devices with two deliberate actions which should be possible under all circumstances for such vehicles. The lighting devices may remain switched OFF provided that throughout the entire period when these lamps are switched OFF, a clear indication/warning is provided to the driver.

In that case, detailed instructions with a reference to the use shall be provided by the vehicle manufacturer with the vehicle only for these vehicles of public authorities."

II. Justification

1. The authorities responsible for public order urge that vehicle manufacturers implement the possibility of switching off lighting equipment, in particular daytime running lamps and dipped headlights. That is necessary at night time to prevent crimes and to persecute suspicious persons. Without these options, the maintenance of national security for such state authorities is difficult.

2. The subsequent retrofitting of the vehicles is increasingly costly and thus more expensive, or the vehicle manufacturers no longer provide any technical solutions for this purpose. It is then at least the taxpayer or public that have to bear these costs.

3. National requirements can solve this problem, but design, production and sales are now also transnational tasks for armed vehicles. Normal police cars, which certainly represent a larger number of vehicles, are also affected by this.

4. Currently, UN Regulation No. 48 does not allow the manual switching off all lighting devices under all circumstances. This feature is necessary for armed services and forces responsible for maintaining public order and is requested by them. It is limited only to vehicles intended for use by the armed services and forces responsible for maintaining public order. This proposal aims to reduce disadvantages and can increase safety. Additional behavioral regulations are in the responsibility of the Contracting Parties.
