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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety

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Item 10 (c) of the provisional agenda

Decade of Action for Road Safety:

Round table on selected global best practices in traffic Safety

Round table on selected global best practices in traffic safety

Submitted by the Governments of France, Italy and the United States of America (USA)

This document proposes to organize a round table on safety of two-wheel vehicles on 23 March 2015 during the seventieth session of WP.1. It contains a tentative agenda and provides a general rationale for this event.

1. As a follow up to the special session held in New Delhi, in December 2013 and to promote the United Nations road safety legal instruments in collaboration with other United Nations regional commissions, the last session of WP.1 agreed to explore the possibility of a round table on selected global best practices in traffic safety.
2. More specifically, the tentative program of the envisaged round table meeting would identify as the leading topic, “Two-Wheel Vehicle Safety (to include mopeds and E-bikes). “This topic was selected in consideration of the high fatality rate affecting emerging countries, where up to 80 per cent of new vehicle registrations are two and three-wheel vehicles and such vehicles are essential for mobility.
3. The one-day round table would aim to identify aspects of the existing road safety conventions (1949 Geneva and 1968 Vienna) that are relevant to two-wheel vehicle safety and could be utilized as effective guidance by emerging nations. Further, the round table would identify priority research areas that could enhance the utility of either the conventions or Consolidated Resolutions for this purpose.
4. The round table would focus on those aspects of two-wheel vehicle safety that are covered by the above-mentioned conventions, including rules of the road, signs and signals, lane usage, driving permits. Also to be considered are topics addressed in existing Consolidated Resolutions including protective gear and safety campaigns.
5. Representatives from ESCAP region with critical two-wheel vehicle safety problems and insights as to the relevance of the conventions would be invited to discuss their status on these focal areas and their potential for progress.
6. The round table discussion would balance theoretical effectiveness of selected countermeasures with pragmatic experiences of the reporting nations. Consensus would be developed on priority considerations for utilization of road safety conventions as a means of fostering improved two-wheel vehicle safety in emerging nations, therefore proceedings of the round table would be prepared for inclusion in Consolidated Resolutions to amend and widen the scope of the Chapter 6 and related of the Consolidated Resolution on Traffic, R.E.1, and make it sound and consistent in the road safety context by setting guidelines of a worldwide safer mobility.
7. In this context, the proposed agenda would be as follows:

Tentative Agenda:

9.30 a.m.	Introduction of topics & objectives of round table: opportunities for utilizing road safety conventions to Support safety improvements in emerging nations
10.00 a.m.	National perspectives: speaker one opportunities for guiding rules of the road
10.45 a.m.	Coffee break
11.15 a.m.	National Perspectives: speaker two opportunities for guiding the use of signs and signals
12.30 p.m.	Lunch Break
2.00 p.m.	National perspectives: speaker three opportunities for guiding campaigns & policies regarding rider behaviour
2.45 p.m.	Discussion of priority considerations in each focal area, envisaging collaboration of regional commissions, research needs and implications for consolidated resolutions

3.45 p.m.	Coffee break
4.15 p.m.	Continued discussion priority considerations
5.00 p.m.	Summary and identification of next steps
5.30 p.m.	Adjourn

8. On the basis of the drafted proposal, the Chair, in coordination with the involved Regional Commissions Secretariat and IRTE will prepare the definite programme of the round table to be held on this first day of the seventieth session.

9. The Working Party may wish to consider the submitted proposal and endorse the principles and activities in scope.
