

WP.29 Informal Group on IWVTA (International Whole Vehicle Type Approval) Phase 2

The mandate of IWVTA Informal Group will terminate by the end of the year 2017. This document is the first draft proposal for “Rules of Procedure and Terms of Reference of IWVTA Phase 2 Informal Group” to be further scrutinized and refined by IWVTA Informal Group. IWVTA Informal Group plans to submit draft proposal to WP.29 for consideration at its November, 2017 session.

- 1. History and objectives**
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1. History and objectives

The task of the proposed IWVTA Phase 2 Informal Group should be to manage and administer the procedure, to ensure a certain level of quality of IWVTA approvals, to serve as a forum for exchange of information and as a platform to prepare the IWVTA related documents for the Administrative Committee of the 1958 Agreement (WP.29/AC.1).

The current IWVTA Informal Group sees the necessity of such an instrument to solve issues related to the process of the further development of IWVTA, i.e., IWVTA Phase 2 and beyond. At the initial stage there will be a need to clearly align the way of the procedure being applied for granting IWVTA approvals in the different regions of the Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement. As a communication platform IWVTA Phase 2 Group could also help to discuss and to settle general issues that may arise during this process.

The idea is to create an informal group not only for the preparation of the documentation for discussion and decision at the WP.29 and WP.29/AC.1 related to the IWVTA process, but also to give the opportunity to type approval authorities to join this group for clarifying open issues. This would mean that IWVTA Phase 2 Group would cover all administrative and technical issues related to the IWVTA process, while the technical aspects of UN Regulations added to UN R0 will be dealt within the GRs. The main tasks to be covered would be:

- Further development of UN R0 and related issues,
- Clarify interpretations of the IWVTA process,
- Clarify interpretations of IWVTA approvals,
- Prepare and submit proposals for amendments of UN R0 to WP.29 and WP.29/AC.1
- Make or review, upon request from WP29, any further proposal for amendments to the schedules annexed to the 1958 Agreement and submit the proposal accordingly to WP.29,
- Review any related Guidance documents or Q&A documents.

With regard to the schedule, IWVTA Phase 2 Informal Group should start its activities in March, 2018 immediately after the mandate of the current IWVTA Informal Group will terminate.

2. Rules of Procedure

- a) International Whole Vehicle Type Approval Phase 2 Informal Group (IWVTA P-2) is a sub-group of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and is open to all Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement and Non-Governmental Organizations participating in WP.29.
- b) The informal group will be managed by a Chairperson, a Co/Vice-Chairperson and a Technical Secretary.
- c) At the last session of the year, the informal group shall elect from the representatives of participants a Chairperson and a Co/Vice-Chairperson, both coming from a Contracting Party, who shall take office at the start of the first session of the following year.
- d) The official language of the informal group will be English.
- e) According to the update process which is stipulated in UN Regulation No. 0, at least one meeting is needed to submit an official working document, if necessary, for the November session of WP.29.
- f) All documents must be submitted to the Technical Secretary of the informal group in a suitable electronic format and will be posted on the UN/ECE website in advance of the meetings by the Technical Secretary of the informal group.
- g) Proposals for amendments of UN Regulation No. 0 or other documents must be submitted at least 10 working days before the meeting.
- h) Any update of UN Regulations listed or to be listed in UN Regulation No. 0 has to be gathered from the subsidiary bodies of WP.29 (the GR groups) responsible for the UN Regulations.
- i) Any proposal to update UN Regulation No. 0 striking the responsibility of one of the GR groups has to be deferred directly to the GR group struck for review.
- j) A provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Technical Secretary of the informal group in consultation with the Chairperson and/or Co/Vice-Chairperson of the informal group.
- k) The informal group may postpone discussing any item or proposal which has not been circulated 10 working days in advance of the scheduled meeting.
- l) The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.
- m) The second item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the minutes of the previous session.
- n) Decisions and proposals of the informal group shall be reached by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Chairperson(s) of the informal group shall present the different points of view to WP.29. The Chairperson(s) may seek guidance from WP.29 as appropriate.

- o) The Technical Secretary of the informal group will aim to distribute the meeting minutes or the summary of the meeting to the members of the informal group within 15 working days after the meeting of the informal group.
 - p) The progress of the informal group shall be routinely reported to WP.29 whenever possible as an informal document and presented by the Chairperson(s) or his/her representative.
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3. Terms of Reference

International Whole Vehicle Type Approval Phase 2 Informal Group shall:

- a) Administer and foster the maintenance of UN Regulation No. 0, the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval System and 1958 Agreement including its Schedules.
- b) Clarify open issues and questions related to the process and procedure of the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval System.
- c) Discuss and give guidance on any issues or questions regarding the application of UN Regulation No. 0 which are not covered by the procedures to resolve interpretation issues of the 1958 Agreement (Article 10 and Schedule 6).
- d) Discuss and develop proposals for the further development of the UN Regulation No. 0 from a partial IWVTA to a full IWVTA covering all the UN Regulations necessary to put vehicles on the market.
- e) Prepare and submit proposals for amendments of UN Regulation No. 0 to WP.29. In consultation with the responsible GRs, consider the introduction timing of amended or additional UN Regulations in Annex 4 of UN Regulation No. 0 which were not included before, and incorporate proposals from the GRs on the inclusion of new UN Regulation(s) or amended UN-Regulation(s) in UN Regulation No. 0.
- f) Prepare and submit proposals to WP.29 for the guidance to the subsidiary bodies of WP.29 on issues related to the International Whole Vehicle Type Approval System, if necessary.
- g) Ensure openness and transparency during the sessions of the informal group and in informing WP.29.

4. Timeline

- i) Come up with a roadmap toward a full IWVTA by November 2018. This roadmap may include intermediate targets and a concrete schedule as to which technical regulations are to be removed or to be added to Annex 4 and when
- ii) Follow up the progress by GRs in reviewing candidates of technical regulations to be added to Annex 4
- iii) Propose at each November session of WP.29, an update of UN Regulations applicable to IWVTA in Annex 4.

These Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure apply to IWVTA Phase 2 Informal Group and do neither modify the provisions of the 1958 Agreement nor the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29).
