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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

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Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda

UN Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices):

Proposals for amendments to the latest series of amendments

Proposal for an amendment to the 06, 07 and 08 series of amendments 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 the Germany in order to clarify the requirements for the installation of the foremost side-marker lamp of 3 m from the front, which cannot always be achieved in case of semi-trailers. The modifications to the 06, 07 and 08 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 48 are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2021 as outlined in proposed programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6 (Sect.20), para 20.51), 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

Paragraph 6.18.4.3., amend to read:

“6.18.4.3. In length: at least one side-marker lamp shall be fitted to the middle third of the vehicle, the foremost side-marker lamp being not further than 3 m (**4 m for semi-trailers**) from the front.

The distance between two adjacent side-marker lamps shall not exceed 3 m. If the structure, design or the operational use of the vehicle makes it impossible to comply with such a requirement, this distance may be increased to 4 m.

The distance between the rearmost side-marker lamp and the rear of the vehicle shall not exceed 1 m.

However, for vehicles the length of which does not exceed 6 m and for chassis-cabs it is sufficient to have one side-marker lamp fitted within the first third and/or within the last third of the vehicle length. For M₁ vehicles the length of which exceeds 6 m but does not exceed 7 m it is sufficient to have one side-marker lamp fitted not further than 3 m from the front and one within the last third of the vehicle length.”

II. Justification

1. The required distance of the foremost side-marker lamp of 3 m from the front cannot always be achieved in case of semi-trailers, nevertheless it should be installed as close as possible to the front.

2. The proposal has been drawn up by taking into account the special circumstances of some semi-trailers (for example: curtain-side trailers) and involves adapting the UN Regulation to them.
