

Programme of Work of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and its Subsidiary Bodies

Main topics of work of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and its subsidiary bodies

The World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations has aligned its work to the Agenda 2030 incorporating into its regulatory framework the technological innovations of vehicles to make them safer and more environmentally sound and thus contributing to the implementation of SDGs 3, 7, 9, 11 and 13.

The Inland Transport Committee (ITC), at its eighty-first annual session in 2019 adopted the ITC Strategy until 2030, invited its subsidiary bodies to take follow-up actions aligning their work with the strategy. In June 2019, the ITC Chair invited all Chairs of Working Parties or Administrative Committees to support in the implementation of the ITC Strategy by proposing a concrete plan aligning the work of their Working Party or Administrative Committee with the ITC strategy.

For the implementation of the ITC strategy ITC identified that, apart from the regular work, the subsidiary bodies need to undertake the following tasks in the Strategy (only those relevant to WP.29 are displayed):

(a) Amendments to the legal instruments with geographical and procedural barriers by 2025 (all WPs/SCs and ACs);

(b) Review of relationship of the existing legal instruments and recommendations by 2022 (all WPs/SCs and ACs to review the legal instruments in the context of different clusters, namely safety, cross-border efficiency, environment and connectivity);

(c) Identification of additional necessary legal instruments (Based on the review, all WPs/SCs and ACs to identify gaps of the legal instruments fully meet the needs for safety, cross-border efficiency, environment and connectivity);

...

(e) Exploring possible new legal instruments from 2020 (all WPs/SCs and ACs based on the above item (c));

(f) Further expand global participation in, and cooperation between, WP.1 and WP.29;

(g) Update DETA and host it at ECE from 2022 onwards (WP.29). This should include consideration given to broadening the current scope of DETA to address needs of 1998 Contracting Parties;

...

(j) Identify, foster and facilitate the introduction of new technologies in the rail, road, road-based mobility, inland waterway, logistics, intermodal transport until 2030 (all WPs/SCs and ACs). The deliverables for this activity should follow realistic timelines, mutually agreed by Contracting Parties;

(k) Enhance support to automated vehicles from 2019, including continuation of amendments to the existing legal instruments and standards, and possible development of new agreement(s), guidance documents, or all if necessary (WP.1 and WP.29);

(l) New training standards and competency criteria from 2022 (all WPs/SCs and ACs with legal instruments);

...

(q) New tools and activities from 2019, e.g. - THE PEP; further development of local pollutant module of ForFITS; reviews on green transport and mobility (WP. 5, WP.29);

...

In conclusion and considering ITC's special priority of global interest, Road Safety and Climate Change mitigation, the top priorities for the work of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations are related to vehicle safety, including the field of automated vehicles paving the way for a regulatory framework supporting the introduction of these emerging technologies towards future autonomous vehicles, and to environmental protection and climate change mitigation. A detailed list of UN Regulations, UN GTRs, UN Rules and Resolutions for discussion at the upcoming sessions of WP.29 is shown in Table 1.

1. Further development and implementation of the three Vehicle Agreements

1.1. **1958 Agreement:** Following the adoption and entry into force of Revision 3 of the 1958 Agreement on 14 September 2017, the requirements for International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA) are to be further developed within UN Regulation No. 0. and DETA to be further developed by adding the modules for Unique Identifier (UI) and Declaration of Conformance (DoC).

1.2. **1997 Agreement:** Amendments to the agreement entered into force on 13 November 2019 introducing elements related to the performance and quality of periodic technical inspections. These endeavours were underpinned by resolution R.E.6 covering skills and training for inspectors, requirements for testing equipment and supervision of test centres. Two additional rules were established covering vehicles with gaseous fuels and electric or Hybrid electric propulsion systems. Access to information necessary for performance of periodic technical inspection of modern vehicles and their electronic controlled safety components needs to be addressed.

1.3. **1998 Agreement:** Following the establishment of Special resolution S.R.3, the implementation of the agreement will be followed with a more strategic approach by identifying key elements that define elements the work will focus on.

2. Horizontal activities

2.1. Performance requirements outside test conditions (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1126, para. 21) and whole life compliance are elements to be considered in all areas of work both in WP.29 and in all GRs.

3. Main topics of the Subsidiary Bodies

3.1. As of the 184th session of WP.29, all GRs were invited to regularly perform a review of their activities and to update their top priorities of their work. The outcome of this review provided the basis for the establishment of the Programme of Work of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and its Subsidiary Bodies for the year 2022 and beyond (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1159, paras. 34 and 35). There was common agreement that in addition to the work on top priorities, existing UN Regulations, UN GTRs and UN Rules would need to be updated for keeping pace with technical progress on a continuous basis. GRs identified the following main priorities of work for 2023:

3.1.1. GRBP main topics are the work on real driving Additional Sound Emission provision (ASEP), for Quiet Road Transport Vehicles (QRTV), Reverse Warning System (RWS), Measurement Uncertainties, as well as Wet Grip of Worn Tyres (WGWT). Further activities are relating to new traction tyre definition, TPMS and vehicle type definition for sound measurements.

A detailed list of priority activities of GRBP is presented in Table 2.

3.1.2. GRE is continuing the work on simplification of the lighting regulations following the establishment of the UN Regulations Nos. 148,149 and 150 as well as Resolution R.E.5 on the common specification of light source categories. Once the first stage of simplification is finalized, in the second stage, GRE will focus on introducing technology neutral

requirements, also taking into account work to avoid glare and to ensure good visibility for dipped beam headlamps. Also, a suitable application of Unique Identifier for lighting regulations is being considered. Installation requirements will be updated by new Series of Amendments for Regulation No. 48 EMC issues will be addressed, not only specifically for certain vehicles and functionalities (e.g. for electrical vehicles) but also generally for adaptation to technical progress (e.g. consideration of enlarging frequency test-range, assistance systems)..

A detailed list of priority activities of GRE is presented in Table 3.

3.1.3. GRPE main area of work is related to improvement of exhaust emissions requirements to ensure real drive performance on the road, new propulsion energy including in-vehicle battery durability or hydrogen systems as well as particulate emissions: Provisions to limit airborne particulates from different sources e.g. sub-23 nm exhaust particles and particulates stemming from brake emissions and/or tyre wear.

A detailed list of priority activities of GRPE is presented in Table 4.

3.1.4. GRVA is establishing further elements for the UN vehicle regulatory framework towards automated driving. This includes Functional Requirements for automated / autonomous vehicles, New assessment / Test methods, Cyber security and (Over-the-Air) Software updates and Data Storage System for Automated Driving vehicles (DSSAD). GRVA will further elaborate requirements for Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) based on the UN Regulation No.79, Automated Driving Systems extending UN Regulation No.157, Automated Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) based on UN Regulation No.131 and Automated Lane Keeping Systems based on UN Regulation No. 157.

A detailed list of priority activities of GRVA is presented in Table 5.

3.1.5. GRSG work will focus on common performance requirements for EDR suitable for both 1958 and 1998 Agreements, EDR for ADAS equipped vehicles and for Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV), on driver's field of vision assistant systems, improved direct visibility by drivers of HDVs and heating systems for electric vehicles. GRSG will consider inclusion of automated vehicles in the vehicle classification system in R.E.3.

A detailed list of activities of GRSG is presented in Table 6.

3.1.6. GRSP focuses its work on crashworthiness. Current priorities are electric vehicle safety, pedestrian safety and child safety. Further work priorities are hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles and helmets as well as update of UN crash regulations and head restraints.

A detailed list of priority activities of GRSP is presented in Table 7.

Table 7
Subjects under consideration by the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP)

GRSP							
Priority/ recurrent	Title	Tasks / Deliverables	References	Allocations / IWGs	Timeline	Initiator	Comments
Short Term							
Priority	Pedestrian Safety (including ongoing and pending amendments)	Review proposed Amendment 3 to GTR9	GRSP-72-08 GRSP-72-09	IWG DPSS	GRSP May 2023 WP.29 November 2023	Korea	Official documents GRSP May 2023 session
Priority	Pedestrian Safety (including ongoing and pending amendments)	Review proposed Amendment 4 to GTR9	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/53 ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/54 AC3/31/Rev.1 GRSP-69-43-Rev.1	TF on hold	TBD	US/EC	activity paused. No consensus could be reached yet
Priority	Amendment to Mutual Resolution No. 1 – Addendum 4	Inclusion of Addendum 4 (Q dummies)	Ongoing Q0, Q1 and Q1.5	Task Force	2023	Germany	Urgent matter, since the lack of specifications may hamper the proper use of UN Regulation No. 129
Priority	GTR 13 – Hydrogen	Inclusion of new tank concepts and other upgrades to in GTR13 Phase 2 and relevant UN Regulations Nos. 134	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/49 ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2022/16 ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2022/17	IWG-HFCV	To WP.29 and AC.3 June 2023 (GTR)	US, CN, JPN, KOR, EC	Recommended by GRSP at December 2022 session
Priority	UN Regulations No. 94, 95, 134, 135, 137, 153.	Transposition of UN GTR 13 Ph2	ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2022/15 GRSP-72-29, GRSP-72-30, GRSP-72-31, GRSP-72-32 and GRSP-72-34		To GRSP May 2023 session	OICA	
Priority	Children in buses	New UN Regulation	GRSP-72-02	IWG-STCBC	May 2023 GRSP	SP	Ongoing
Medium Term							

GRSP							
Priority/ recurrent	Title	Tasks / Deliverables	References	Allocations / IWGs	Timeline	Initiator	Comments
Priority	GTR 20 - Electric vehicles safety	Inclusion of upgrades to GTR20 Phase 2		IWG-EVS	Proposal at March/Nov 2024 WP.29	US, EC, CN, JPN	Informal document GRSP December 2023
Recurrent	UN Regulation No. 16, 129, 145	To align UN R16, R129 and R145 with regard to the use of a support leg for non-iSize positions and to the requirements for Lower Tether Anchorages	GRSP-71-19 and GRSP-72-28	Ad-Hoc Group	Proposals at May 2023 session	NL	
Recurrent	3DH point machine UN Regs/UN GTR	Remove inconsistencies and include the HPM-1 into M.R.1	GRSP-72-33	Ad-hoc group	December 2023 off.proposal GRSP	NL, Sp, OICA and CLEPA	
Recurrent	Children left in cars	Data gathering and examination of strategies at national level				Australia, CI, USA, Canada, Russian Federation, Italy	
			Long Term				
Priority	Equitable protection of vehicle occupants	Examine field data and evidence on whether occupants suffer disproportionate injuries and fatalities	GRSP 68-07, GRSP 68-08, GRSP 68-09, GRSP-71-23, GRSP-72-10 and GRSP-72-45	IWG pending approval of WP.29 and AC.3 at the March 2023 sessions	2027	Sweden	
Recurrent	Protective Helmets	Consider future series of amendments (07)	2019/25 and GRSP 66-22	Suspended	2023 Discussion in GRSP May session	FR IT	To be started if agreed by GRSP

Subjects under consideration by the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP) at its 73rd session

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Document symbol</i> <i>ECE/TRANS/WP.29/...</i>	<i>Documentation</i> <i>availability</i>
7.1. 1958 Agreement		For document symbols and its availability, please refer to the agenda for the eightieth session (GRSP/2023/1)
7.1.1. Proposal for draft amendments to existing UN Regulations (1958 Agreement):		
[21 (Interior fittings);		
22 (Protective helmets);		
80 (Strength of seats and their anchorages (buses));		
94 (Frontal collision);		
95 (Lateral collision)		
100 (Electric power trained vehicles);		
127 (Pedestrian safety);		
129 (Enhanced child restraint systems)		
134 (Hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles (HFCV))		
137 Frontal impact with focus on restraint systems]		
7.1.2. Proposal for draft new UN Regulations:		
Nil		
7.2. 1998 Agreement (Global)		For document symbols and its availability, please refer to the agenda for the eightieth session (GRSP/2023/1)
[9 (Pedestrian safety);		
13 (Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Vehicles)		
20 (Electric vehicle safety)		
Electric vehicles		
Vehicle Crash compatibility]		
7.3. 1997 Agreement (Inspections)		
Nil		
7.4. Proposal for draft recommendations or amendments to existing recommendations		
Mutual Resolution No. 1.		

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Document symbol ECE/TRANS/WP.29/...</i>	<i>Documentation availability</i>
7.5. Miscellaneous items		
[Exchange of information on national and international requirements on passive safety;		
International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (IWVTA)		
Securing of children in buses and coaches;		
Exchange of views on vehicle automation;		
Three-dimensional H-point machine;		
Children left in cars.]		
