

## **Concept Note on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the 1998 Agreement**

### **Time and Venue**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is organizing a celebration event at the opening of the 190<sup>th</sup> session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations, WP.29. The event is in-person and will be hosted at the Palais des Nations. It will be held on 20 June 2023, from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm.

### **Background**

The first session of AC.3 was held on 8 March 2001, Canada, EC, Japan, Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States of America in attendance. Over the past 25 years 1998 Agreement has contributed to vehicle regulations in many ways and WP.29 is invited to recognise this work.

1998 Agreement through its Executive Committee, AC.3, and WP.29's Working Parties develops UN GTRs, establishing a globally applicable legal framework for the certification and testing of vehicles within the areas covered by the Agreement<sup>1</sup>.

AC.3 addresses the priorities of the Contracting Parties, e.g. certification provisions on hybrid, electric vehicles and on hydrogen fuel cells vehicles, and in future also on vehicle automation and cyber security of automated vehicles. Special technical considerations are held in the subsidiary bodies of the World Forum addressing

- Active safety of vehicles and their parts (crash avoidance),
- Passive safety of vehicles and their parts (crashworthiness),
- Consideration on noise and tyres,
- Environmental considerations on pollutants and energy consumption,
- General safety considerations, and
- Automated/autonomous and connected vehicles.

### **Purpose**

This event focuses mainly on highlighting the work done over the past 25 years along with recognising the signature of the 1998 Agreement which was signed on the 25 June 1998. An agreement which will reach its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June 2023.

This event will be composed of reflections from the Contracting Parties that had been the principal negotiators of the Agreement, i.e. the United States of America, Japan and the European Community, Contracting Parties that take initiatives in developing UN GTRs and transpose them into their national legislations. Comments from former chairs and the industry will guide participants through the 25 years of the 1998 Agreement demonstrating the relevance in the past – now and in the future.

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<sup>1</sup> 1998 Agreement on Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles

## Tentative Programme

**Celebration of the  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1998 Agreement  
10:30 – 12:30**

**Patronage:** TBD

**Moderator:** T. Naono (AC.3 Chair)

- Session opening
  - Welcome note from the Special Envoy for Road Safety
  - Contribution by the Executive Secretary
  - Contribution by the Director of the Sustainable Transport Division
  - Interventions by the Contracting Parties that had been the principal negotiators of the Agreement
  - Intervention by the Contracting Parties that take initiative in developing UN GTR and transpose them into their national legislations
  - Intervention by former chairs
  - Interventions by industry/NGOs representatives
  - Reception
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