Development of the ITC Strategy on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in inland transport

Proposed response from the World Forum on Harmonization of Vehicle Regulation (WP.29)

Duncan Kay
Vice-Chair of GRPE
Decisions of ITC at its 85th annual session (Geneva, 21-24 February 2023, see report ECE/TRANS/328, para. 60):

- “requested the secretariat, in close cooperation with the Committee’s Bureau and relevant subsidiary bodies, to develop an ambitious strategy document for reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in inland transport based on international United Nations legal instruments…”

May 2023, Letter to all Chairs from working parties, invited “to provide your inputs and feedback to the outline of the climate change strategy…” by Friday 29 September 2023”
I. Inland transport and climate
II. ITC vision and mission on climate action
III. Strategic objectives
IV. ITC-administered instruments to assist in mitigating climate change
V. ITC Climate Action Plan with milestones – ITC to help deliver on climate goals
VI. List of priorities
VII. Resource mobilization for the delivery of the strategy
VIII. Strategic partnerships for the delivery of this Strategy
The Working Party on Pollution and Energy (WP.29/GRPE) tasked “to coordinate and gather input received from all GRs” (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1173, para. 156)

GRPE set up a task force to draft the contribution from WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies; all stakeholders from WP.29 and subsidiary bodies were invited to participate. All GRs contributed to the document.

- Four meetings held, WP.29-191-27 as an output

Preliminary elements have been shared for the ITC bureau 7-8 Nov

- All elements contained in WP.29-191-27 will not necessarily make it to the draft/final strategy as prepared by the secretariat and shared with countries for comment

If endorsed by WP.29 today WP.29-191-27 will be included in background material coming together with the ITC strategy
Document articulated around two approaches:

- What WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies can do to contribute to the ITC climate mitigation strategy, labelled “WP.29 contribution”
- What WP.29 recommends ITC to consider for an impactful climate mitigation strategy and/or what would be needed from ITC to help WP.29 achieve the ambition of the strategy, labelled “WP.29 recommendations to ITC”

Disclaimer: elements in the draft contribution prepared by the informal Task Force still under consultation, to be endorsed by contracting parties, during November 2023 session of WP.29.
First, What can WP.29 do to ensure a successful strategy? “WP.29 contribution” (1/2)

Three main pillars to WP.29 activities to contribute to GHG emissions reduction:

(a) Looking at the carbon footprint of vehicles over the lifetime, from cradle to grave, for example
   - GRPE to accelerate the pace of development/maintenance of regulatory proposals that contribute to GHG emission mitigation
   - GRPE develop harmonized methodologies to be able to quantify and monitor the carbon footprint of vehicle (harmonization of ZEV meaning and definition)
   - GRPE to maintain frequent exchanges with relevant initiatives working on inland transport decarbonization

(b) Robustly measure and lower the GHG emissions and energy consumption of vehicles and their components during their use phase, for example
   - GRE on more energy efficient lighting
   - GRBP on low rolling resistance tyres
   - GRSG on rear view cameras
First, What can WP.29 do to ensure a successful strategy?

“WP.29 contribution” (2/2)

Ensure the safe deployment of carbon neutral technologies, powertrain, and modes of transport, for example:

- GRVA/GRSG on e-axles
- GRSG on bus accessibility and child restraint systems in buses
- GRSP on EV / hydrogen vehicle safety

Generally:

- WP.29 to support the acceleration of electrification in some regions, through dedicated technical regulatory development where needed.
- WP.29 to accelerate the development of a regulatory framework for digitalization of the sector, and integration of innovations and new technologies. Digitalization of the certification process to be also valued to potentially lower GHG emissions.
Second, WP.29 recommendations to ITC to ensure a successful strategy? “WP.29 recommendations to ITC” (1/2)

WP.29 recommends ITC to:

- Develop a data-driven ITC strategy; objectives, targets, milestone to be quantifiable so progress monitoring can be factual.
- Request Top->Down guidance from countries:
  => detailed inland transport decarbonization action plan:
    - Help define work priorities of the WPs
    - Complementary to NDCs, for inland transport sector, in line with UNFCCC submission cycle
- All WPs to provide more information on the GHG impact of their proposals/decisions
Second, WP.29 recommendations to ITC to ensure a successful strategy? “WP.29 recommendations to ITC” (2/2)

- ITC to collect GHG emissions data from inland transport
  - using existing data sources, linking to UNFCCC National communications
  - Existing activities within UNECE can fit this request (e.g. WP.6)

- ITC to closely collaborate with / complement UNFCCC secretariat activities
  - No need to reinvent already existing submissions/contributions from contracting parties
  - More detailed / specialized approach for inland transport
The WP.29/GRPE task force finalized its work
- Final document now for WP.29 consideration
- Specific contribution from NGOs are included in annexes

Some preliminary elements were shared to be shared for the ITC Bureau meeting early November

Final endorsement of the draft feedback this week by WP.29

ITC GHG emission reduction from inland transport considered at the next ITC session, Feb 2024
- Contracting parties and Working Party Chairs consultation in Nov/Dec 2023
Actions of the inland transport sector to join the global fight against climate change

Thank you!