

Proposal for GRVA workshops for the regulatory approach for Automated Driving Systems (GRVA workshops on ADS)

I. Background, objective and outline

1. ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2019/34/Rev.2, as modified by ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/151, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2023/43 and WP.29-191-31 contains the strategic vision for the activities of WP.29, GRVA and its Informal Working Groups (IWGs) with respect to automated vehicles. This framework document directs GRVA and its IWGs to use the issues, topics and deliverables from that document as guidance to inform further discussions, activities and outcomes.
2. At its 191st session WP.29 adopted a new working structure with a new Informal Working Group on Automated Driving Systems and GRVA workshops to launch and to undertake the work on regulatory activities for such systems. This follow-up is based on the activities of the two IWGs Functional Requirements for Automated and Autonomous Vehicles (FRAV) and Validation Methods for Automated Driving (VMAD) and their joint deliverable, namely the FRAV-VMAD integrated document (GRVA-18-40) to be adopted by WP.29 at its June 2024 session.
3. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall:
 - Work according to the principles outlined in the Framework Document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2019/34/Rev.2, as modified by ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/151, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2023/43 and WP.29-191-31;
 - Be organised four times per year [(three times in 2024)];
 - Develop and draft the specific administrative provisions and annexes for a draft UN Global Technical Regulation on ADS (Task 1);
 - Develop and draft the specific administrative provisions and annexes for a draft UN Regulation on ADS (Task 2);
 - Prepare and draft a guiding/interpretation document applicable for both Agreements to support the implementation of the regulations (Task 3);
 - Provide the IWG on ADS with the provisions and annexes developed in Task 1 and Task 2;
 - Liaise with the IWG on ADS for the work on Task 3.
4. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall take full account of developments and work in full cooperation with other subsidiary Working Parties (GRs) of WP.29 and their IWGs.
5. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall take into account existing and any new data, research and standards available in the contracting parties in developing its proposals.

6. Based on the endorsement of the Terms of Reference of the IWG on ADS by WP.29 at its [March 2024] session, the first GRVA workshop on ADS shall be held in [May/June 2024] to draft a proposal for activities and a timeline in accordance with the draft timeline of the IWG on ADS, to start a first discussion on the content for the drafting process.
7. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall deliver provide proposals for Task 1 and Task 2 according to the [timeline/schedule] drafted by the IWG on ADS and endorsed by GRVA.
8. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall submit the guiding/interpretation document developed within Task 3 for the [January 2026] session of GRVA.
9. The text of regulatory proposals (Task 1, Task 2 [and Task 3]) shall, to the fullest extent possible, be performance based and technology neutral.

II. Structure and administrative provisions

1. The GRVA workshops on ADS shall report to GRVA and are open to all participants of WP.29. All Contracting Parties to both Agreements, the 1958 and the 1998 Agreement can participate in and contribute to all meeting days and tasks of the workshop.
2. The GRVA Chair together with the two Vice-Chairs and the Secretary of GRVA will act as leadership and manage the GRVA workshops on ADS. Support can be provided to the Secretary by Contracting Parties and Non-Governmental Organisations.
3. Each GRVA Vice-Chair shall lead the work on one of the Tasks 1 and Task 2.
4. The leadership may invite experts (at their discretion), including non-participants of WP.29, to assist in the development of technical prescriptions.
5. The working language of the GRVA workshops on ADS will be English. The possibility of a hybrid format to allow also for online participation should be provided.
6. Each workshop shall be organised as two-days-workshops. The workshop is covering the 1958 and 1998 Agreements. One day will be dedicated to the 1958 Agreement specific topics, the other day to the 1998 Agreement specific topics. An extension of the workshop to three days is possible, if needed.
7. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of the relevant group in a suitable electronic format in advance of the workshops. The group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated five working days in advance to the workshops.
8. An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the GRVA workshops on ADS in advance of all scheduled workshops.
9. A summary of the workshops will be prepared and distributed to all experts involved in the workshops in due time after each workshop.
10. Decisions will be reached by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the leadership of the workshops shall present the different points of view to GRVA to seek guidance from GRVA as appropriate.
11. The progress and results of the workshops will be reported routinely to GRVA – wherever possible as an informal document and presented by the Secretary of the workshops.

12. All documents shall be distributed in digital format. Workshop documents should be made available to the Secretary for publication on the dedicated website.
 13. Final decision on regulatory proposals rests with WP.29 and the Contracting Parties.
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