

Transmitted by the expert from the European Commission

(80^h GRBP, 17-20 September 2024,
agenda item 5)

Alternative non-acoustic measures to AVAS

A 02 series of amendments to UNR 138 was presented to GRBP during its 79th session (February 2024). It was formally adopted by WP 29 in June 2024.

This 02 series of amendments incorporated a footnote 2 stating as follows: “At this stage, only acoustic measures shall be developed in order to overcome the concern of reduced audible signals from electrified vehicles. After finalization, the appropriate GR shall be assigned with the enhancement of the Regulation in order to develop alternative, non-acoustic measures, taking into account active safety systems such as, but not limited to, pedestrian detection systems. [...]”

The European Commission proposes to delete this footnote from the regulation (see proposal in informal document introducing a 03 series of amendments to UNR 138, GRBP-80-06) and to inform WP 29 of GRBP suggestion contained in footnote 2. That would be helpful if other GRs had the possibility to update their work programme to take GRBP suggestion into account.

The European Commission would be grateful if the chair of GRBP could incorporate this point to his next report to WP 29. Given the serious public health concern represented by noise around the world (and notably in the EU), any opportunity to make autonomous vehicles quieter shall be investigated.