

Draft Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of Informal Working Group of GRSG on Driver Drowsiness and Distraction Warning Systems Regulations

I. Introduction

At the 127th session of GRSG in April 2024, GRSG agreed to seek consent of WP.29 at its June 2024 session to establish an Informal Working Group (IWG) on Driver Drowsiness and Distraction Warning Systems (IWG DDADWS). At the 193rd session of WP.29 in June 2024, the creation of the IWG was endorsed under the chairmanship of the expert from Australia. The IWG will recognise the justification for regulations to address the road safety problems caused by driver drowsiness and driver distraction, already established by the EU General Safety Regulation. The IWG will further investigate and discuss driver drowsiness and distraction warning systems, and collectively explore and evaluate countermeasures appropriate for inclusion within new regulations for these systems.

II. Terms of Reference

1. The Informal Working Group (IWG) shall develop draft regulatory proposals for two new UN Regulations under the 58 Agreement on Driver Drowsiness Warning Systems and Driver Distraction Warning Systems, to prevent crashes caused by the driver not paying attention to the driving task.
2. The IWG will also endeavour to develop two new Global Technical Regulations (GTRs) under the 98 Agreement in parallel with the UN Regulations (subject to endorsement by AC.3).
3. The IWG shall as a basis for the discussions consider the EU Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/1341 for driver drowsiness and attention warning systems and EU Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/2590 for advanced driver distraction warning systems;
 - a. the 00 series of the new UN regulations shall be closely aligned to the above existing EU regulations, with minor differences including for clarity and/or editorial corrections allowed when relevant,
 - b. improvements to performance requirements shall be considered for development in the 01 series of new regulations, as agreed by the IWG taking into account any relevant cost/benefits analysis.

4. The IWG should take account of the driver monitoring requirements for Driver Control Assistance Systems (DCAS) developed by the Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles (GRVA).
5. The IWG should consider the need for parallel amendments to other UN regulation/s, including for example to ensure that vehicle dashboard areas and hand controls for the driver are designed in ways which minimise the need for warnings from improved systems for the detection of driver distraction. Proposals for amendments to such regulations shall be tabled at GRSG for their revision.
6. The IWG should take account of any other existing standards, protocols, data and research in developing its regulatory proposals, from regions globally, including North America, Asia, and other global jurisdictions. The IWG should also take account of other road safety benefits which may come from the systems likely to be used to detect driver drowsiness and distraction.
7. The IWG shall focus on systems for vehicles in categories M and N for UN Regulations and category 1 and 2 vehicles for GTRs.
8. The target completion dates for the development of UN Regulations under the 58 Agreement by the IWG are :
 - a. October 2025 for the 00 series of amendments
 - b. October 2026 for the 01 series of amendments
9. The IWG will submit proposals for new UN Regulations and/or GTRs for Driver Drowsiness Warning Systems and Driver Distraction Warning Systems to GRSG. The adoption process remains the responsibility of GRSG and WP.29.

III. Rules of Procedure

1. The IWG is a sub-group of GRSG, and is open to all participants of WP.29.
2. The Chair of the IWG shall be under the responsibility of Australia.
3. The secretariat of the IWG shall be under the responsibility of OICA.
4. The Chair and the Secretary will manage the IWG.
5. Subject matter experts may be invited by the Chair to ensure engagement of the best available participants.
6. The working language of the IWG will be English.
7. All documents and/or proposals shall be submitted to the Secretary and Chair of the IWG in a suitable electronic format in advance of the meeting. The Chair may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated 10 working days prior to the meeting.
8. An agenda and related documents will be made available on the website of WP.29 by the Secretary, in advance of all scheduled meetings. Documents requiring members' review for decision shall be posted at least 10 working days before such a meeting.

9. Decisions will be reached by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Chair of the IWG shall present the different points of view to GRSG. The Chair may seek guidance from GRSG, as appropriate.
10. The progress of the IWG will be routinely reported to GRSG – wherever possible as an informal document and presented by the Chair, the Secretary or their representative(s).
11. Final decision on the regulatory proposals rests with WP.29 and Contracting Parties.

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