



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2007/3  
18 December 2006

Original: ENGLISH  
ENGLISH AND FRENCH ONLY

---

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

Fifty-seventh session  
Geneva, 26-30 March 2007  
Item 4.2. of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSAL FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE  
INFORMAL GROUP ON OPERATING VOLTAGE ISSUES FOR LIGHTING AND  
LIGHT-SIGNALLING DEVICES**

Submitted by the expert from Germany

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Germany and it had been discussed during the preparatory meeting of the informal group held in Paris on 7 September 2006. This document is submitted to the Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE) for consideration and adoption.

---

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on Lighting and Light-Signalling only.

A. PROPOSAL

I. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The informal group on operating voltage issues for lighting and light-signalling devices (hereafter referred to as informal group), shall act within the framework of the policies of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and subject to the general supervision of GRE and the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), provided such actions are in conformity with the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of WP.29 and its subsidiary bodies as well as consistent with the 1958 Agreement.

2. Investigate issues of operating voltage for lighting and light-signalling devices with regard to their adverse effect on road traffic safety.

Alternative 1 for paragraph 3.

3. Investigate the discrepancies between the voltages defined for type approval of lighting and light-signalling devices and the voltages defined on vehicles, with the objective to align the device and vehicle type approval voltage requirements, considering e.g.:

- (a) headlamp glare;
- (b) light source lifetime;
- (c) voltage interface;
- (d) vehicle under conditions of normal use;
- (e) other items related to operating voltage.

Alternative 2 for paragraph 3.

3. Identify the potential to improve traffic safety with suitable technical solutions and supporting regulatory actions, to include but not limited to:

- (a) variance between vehicle type approval and in-service operating voltage;
- (b) variance between component type approval voltage and vehicle type approval voltage, with said lighting devices installed;
- (c) headlamp glare;
- (d) light source lifetime;
- (e) voltage interfaces;
- (f) other items related to operating voltage.

4. Investigate the benefits and the costs.

5. Develop agreed proposals, including the appropriate justifications and timing plan, for amendments to the relevant Regulations, including test procedures and to submit formal documents to GRE for consideration at its fifty-ninth session.

## II. RULES OF PROCEDURE

### 1. Participation

Members shall be delegates of GRE, Contracting Parties to the 1958 Agreement, vehicle manufacturers, manufacturers of lighting devices, Technical Services, traffic safety experts, trade associations, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), etc.

### 2. Meetings

Meetings shall be held in agreement with all delegates after the group has been established in a constitutional meeting. The cycle of meetings shall be sufficient to meet GRE requirements. The secretariat of the informal group (hereafter referred to as the secretariat), at least two (2) weeks before the commencement of a meeting, shall distribute a notice of the opening date of said meeting, together with a copy of the provisional agenda. The basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda of a meeting shall be available on the WP.29 website or sent by the secretariat to the members by e-mail. If minutes of the previous meeting are not available before the next scheduled meeting, the subsequent meetings have to be postponed accordingly.

### 3. Agenda

A provisional agenda shall be prepared by the secretariat in accordance with the members. The first item on the provisional agenda for each meeting shall be the adoption of the agenda.

### 4. Minutes

The second item on the provisional agenda will be the discussion, matters arising and adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes of each meeting will be prepared by the secretariat and distributed in a timely manner, by e-mail, to all members and other agreed recipients.

## B. JUSTIFICATION

At its fifty-sixth session GRE agreed on the need to establish an informal group on operating voltage issues for lighting and light-signalling devices and invited the expert from Germany to prepare a proposal regarding the terms of reference and the rules of procedure for this informal group (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/56, para. 17). WP.29 gave its consent for the establishment of this informal group at its one-hundred-and-thirty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1052, para. 27).

The planned working program of the informal group is related to all vehicle categories covered by the scope of Regulation No. 48.

-----