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**Economic Commission for Europe**

Inland Transport Committee

**Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety**

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Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

**Revision of the terms of Reference of the Group of Experts  
on drafting a new legal instrument on the use of automated  
vehicles in traffic (LIAV)**

**Submitted by Finland, Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom**

This document proposes amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Group of Experts tasked with drafting a new legal instrument on use of automated vehicles in road traffic.

## Terms of reference of the Group of Experts on drafting a new legal instrument on the use of automated vehicles in traffic<sup>1</sup>

1. This Group of Experts is established to prepare a draft new legal instrument on the use of automated vehicles in domestic and international traffic, to harmonise rules on their use.
2. To identify the issues that need to be addressed and inform drafting of a new legal instrument, the Group of Experts is to undertake collectively the assessment of any gaps in the conventions and resolutions under the auspices of WP.1, and identify the issues to be addressed. The Group will present its assessment and recommendations to WP.1 for its review and approval by June 2024.
3. The Group of Experts is established as per the “Guidelines for the establishment and functioning of teams of specialists” (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1).
4. The Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) is the Group’s **supervising** body. The ECE secretariat will provide secretariat services as per the relevant ECE rules and regulations. The working languages of the Group shall be English, French, and Russian. This is subject, however, to the provision of UNOG Conference Management services, such as document processing and simultaneous translation.
5. The main output of the Group of Experts is to draft a new legal instrument which is expected to complement the 1949 and 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic, as informed by the assessment of need described in paragraph 2. It will include, in addition to the typical sections on definitions and final clauses, a set of legal provisions for the safe deployment of automated vehicles in international traffic. These provisions will specifically aim to ensure road safety, in particular the safety of vulnerable road users.
6. The mandate of the Group of, started on 1 July 2021 and will continue until 31 December 2024 (with a possibility of extension). The Group’s rules of procedure are contained in the “Guidelines for the establishment and functioning of teams of specialists” (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1) as well as in other applicable ECE documents.
7. The Group of Experts is established without the need for additional resources. Support work will be provided within the existing capacities of the ECE secretariat. UNOG resources will be used for simultaneous interpretation, document translation, and conference services.
8. The Group of Experts shall periodically consult with the Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1). The number of formal consultations will not be fewer than two per year (coinciding with the regular WP.1 sessions). Upon completion of its mandate, the GE.3 shall submit to WP.1 a summary of its activities together with all the documents that were produced as a result of those activities which are relevant to inform discussions at WP.1 regarding amendments to existing, or new legal instruments.
9. To inform its work, the Group of Experts should seek contributions from Contracting parties to the existing conventions on road traffic as well as other relevant stakeholders such as but not limited to other UNECE bodies, paying particular regard to engagement with WP.29 and its formal and informal working groups to ensure consistency between rules on use and AV specifications.
10. The Group will hold at least two formal plenary meetings per year at the ECE premises in Geneva. In between the formal sessions, the Group may choose its own modus operandi.
11. The Group of Experts will – upon completion of its task - submit the complete draft new legal instrument to its **supervising** body for consideration and decision.
12. In conformity with the “Guidelines for the establishment and functioning of teams of specialists” (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1), participation in the work of the Group will usually be limited

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<sup>1</sup> Technically adjusted from the Annex to ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2020/2/Rev.1. Technical adjustments reflected with strikethrough and bold.

to representatives officially nominated by the governments of the Contracting Parties to the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and those of the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic.

13. It is highly recommended that the representatives nominated as per paragraph 10 have professional experience in road safety, traffic law, and/or transport policy. Nominations of representatives with academic and/or research experience in road safety, traffic law, and/or transport policy are also suitable. In addition, governments may consider nominating professionals whose expertise complements the qualifying expertise mentioned in this paragraph.

14. The Chair of this Group of Experts may, on occasion, invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations, academia, or research institutes, industry, and nongovernmental entities as well as representatives from non-contracting member states and other relevant UNECE bodies, to participate in a consultative capacity and ensure fair representation. The capacity in which experts participated in the meeting reason for the invitation should be included in the report of the meeting they attended. This rule also applies to meetings held in between the formal sessions specified in paragraph 10.

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