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PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A GLOBAL TECHNICAL REGULATION CONCERNING
UNIFORM PROVISIONS FOR LOCATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF MOTORCYCLE
CONTROLS, TELL-TALES AND INDICATORS

Technical Sponsor: Italy

Note: The text has been prepared by Italy for consideration by the Executive Committee (AC.3) of the 1998 Global Agreement.

Objective of the proposal

Many vehicle collisions result from driver distraction. One identifiable source of such distraction is diversion of drivers' attention from the driving task by confusing information displayed in the drivers' field of vision and unclear identification of the controls necessary for vehicle's operation.

People purchasing new vehicles in countries allowing motorcycles certified in different jurisdictions are faced with different telltales and means of identifying controls. Drivers need time to learn their dashboard messages and to identify their vehicle controls. During this time these vehicle operators have to divide their attention between the increasingly difficult task of driving, the identification of controls and the comprehension of telltales provided to "ease" the driving task.

There is, therefore, a need to harmonize the way in which the motorcycle controls, tell-tales and indicators are installed and identified.

The proposed global technical regulation would apply to all on-road motorcycles. It would specify requirements for the location, identification, colour, and illumination of motorcycle tell-tales, indicators and controls. It would be designed to ensure the visibility of tell-tales and indicators and to ensure the accessibility of vehicle controls to facilitate their selection under daylight and night-time conditions.

Description of the proposed regulation

The document attached as Annex 1 is a table which compares the content of the texts listed below and includes a draft proposal for the technical content of the global technical regulation.

Existing regulations and directives

Though there are no regulations currently contained in the Compendium of Candidates, the following regulations were taken into account during development of the new global technical regulation regarding controls, tell-tales and indicators:

- Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Regulation No. 101 – Location and identification of controls and displays.
- EC Directive 93/29/EEC – Identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators
- Japan: Article 10/Article 46.
- UN/ECE Regulation 60: Controls, telltales and indicators
- U.S.A Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 123: Controls and displays.

International Voluntary Standards

- ISO 6727-1981 "Motorcycles: Symbols for control indicators and telltales
- 9021-1988 "Motorcycles - Controls - Types, positions and functions