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## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

Working Party on General Safety Provisions (GRSG) (Ninetieth session, 24-28 April 2006, agenda item 1.4.9.)

## PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 107

(M<sub>2</sub> and M<sub>3</sub> vehicles)

## Transmitted by the expert from Germany

<u>Note</u>: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Germany and proposes insertion into the Regulation the provisions for driver's workplace. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation (up to the draft 02 series of amendments proposed in ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2006/26) are marked in **bold** characters.

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on General Safety Provisions only.

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## A. **PROPOSAL**

List of Annexes, amend to read:

" ....

<u>Annex 12</u> - Trolleybuses

Annex 13 - Driver's workplace"

The text of the Regulation,

Insert a new Annex 13, to read:

#### "<u>Annex 13</u>

#### **DRIVER'S WORKPLACE**

1. GENERAL

The requirements of this annex are defined for left-hand steered vehicles. For right hand steered vehicles the prescriptions, with the exception of paragraph 2. "Driver's seat", shall be mirrored and applied correspondingly.

2. DRIVER'S SEAT

All dimensions defined in this paragraph shall be measured with the seat unloaded and in the median longitudinal plane if not otherwise stated.

- 2.1. Minimum seat width
- 2.1.1. The width of the seat squab shall be at least 450 mm for a length of 200 mm (dimension B1 of figure 1).
- 2.1.2. The width of the seat back shall be at least 480 mm in one position measured in the lower half of the seat back (dimension B2 of figure 1).
- 2.2. Minimum seat depth

The depth of the seat squab shall be at least 420 mm, measured in the median longitudinal vertical plane (dimension K of figure 1).

2.3. Minimum height of the seat back

The height of the seat back shall be at least 500 mm, measured in the median longitudinal vertical plane (dimension H1 of figure 1).

2.4. Adjustment range of the seat

Controls shall be placed and designed such that they can be used readily and without danger. If their allocation, mode of operation and state of operation are not unambiguous, they shall be marked permanently so as to prevent errors when operating them. Controls for conducting the vehicle must be accessible with fastened seat belt.

2.4.1. Height adjustment

The vertical adjustment range shall be at least 100 mm for vehicles of category  $M_3$  (dimension SV of figure 1). In case of vehicles of category  $M_2$  this figure shall be 60 mm.

2.4.2. Longitudinal adjustment

The longitudinal adjustment range shall be at least 180 mm (dimension SH of figure 1).

2.4.3. Inclination of the seat squab

The inclination of the seat squab shall be adjustable from 0  $^\circ$  (horizontal) to 10  $^\circ$  (rising towards the front).

2.4.4. Inclination of the seat back

The seat back shall be adjustable from 10  $^\circ$  to 25  $^\circ$  (measured towards a vertical line).

2.4.5. Swivel mechanism

If a seat is fitted with a swivelling mechanism, the seat shall lock automatically when in the position for driving.

2.4.6. Damping

Vibrations emerging from the vehicle shall be damped by the seat. The transfer ratio of the seat shall not exceed the value 1.0.

- 2.5. Additional requirements for manually adjustable seats.
- **2.5.1.** The control for vertical adjustment shall be positioned on the left side of the seat.
- 2.5.2. The control for longitudinal adjustment shall be positioned on the front of the seat.
- **2.5.3.** The control for adjusting the seat inclination shall be positioned on the left side of the seat.

2.5.4. The control for adjusting the seat back inclination shall be positioned on the left side of the seat.



## **3.** SAFETY DEVICE BEHIND THE DRIVER

- 3.1. A partition or barrier shall be positioned behind the driver.
- **3.1.1.** The height of the partition or barrier shall equal at least 800 mm measured from the floor of the passenger compartment (see figure 2).
- **3.1.2.** The width of the partition or barrier shall be at least 100 mm on both sides of the vertical median plane through the centre line of the seat.
- **3.1.3.** The driver shall be protected from objects liable to fall into the driver's workplace in the case of heavy braking. This requirement shall be deemed to be met when a ball of 50 mm diameter cannot reach the driver's workplace.
- 3.1.4. The distance between the most upper edge of an area destined to hold any object, e.g. tables, etc. and the most upper edge of a partition or barrier shall be at least 90 mm (see figure 2).

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## 4. CONTROLS

- 4.1. The devices to actuate the direction indicators and the controls for the operation of the exterior lighting shall be left of a vertical longitudinal plane through the centre of the steering wheel.
- 4.2. No controls shall be positioned within a distance of 100 mm to the right and to the left of the plane described in item 4.1.
- 4.2.3. The prescriptions of items 4.1. and 4.2. shall not apply to the control to activate the hazard lights and those controls which are designed to operate solely the instrument panel.

#### **B.** JUSTIFICATION

The current text of Regulation No. 107 contains only a few prescriptions for the driver's area.

This proposal attempts to define a minimum set of rules as a basis for a harmonized assessment of the driver's place.

It refers to and is based on research performed by the German "Berufsgenossenschaft für Fahrzeughaltungen", an insurance association occupied with health and safety of professional drivers.

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