Proposal for amendments to Regulation No. 61 (Uniform Provisions For The Approval Of Commercial Vehicles With Regard To Their External Projections Forward Of The Cab's Rear Panel)

Proposal:

Add new paragraphs 2.9. and 2.10., to read:

- "2.9. "Bumper" means the front, lower, outer structure of a vehicle. It includes all structures that are intended to give protection to a vehicle when involved in a low speed frontal collision and also any attachments to this structure.
- 2.10. "Bumper cover" means the non-rigid outer surface of a bumper, generally extending across the full width of the front or rear of a vehicle."

Amend paragraph 4.1., as follow, to read:

"4.1. If the vehicle submitted for approval pursuant to this Regulation meets the requirements of paragraphs 5 and 6 below, approval of that vehicle type shall be granted. Subject to the Technical Service acceptance, a vehicle of category N_1 which is derived from category M_1 may be type-approved on the basis of the technical specifications of Regulation No. 26."

Amend paragraph 6.5.2., to read:

"6.5.2. The component of the front protective devices shall be so designed that all rigid surfaces facing outwards have a radius of curvature of not less than 5 mm. However, if a bumper cover is fitted, it shall have a radius of curvature of not less than 2.5 mm."

Justification:

Paragraph 2.9.

Introduction of a definition of a "bumper" in alignment with the main part of the definition used in the new UN regulation on pedestrian protection (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2010/127 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2011/51).

Paragraph 2.10.

Introduction of a definition of a "bumper cover".

Paragraph 4.1.

For vehicles of category N1 vehicles which are derived from category M1 vehicles it would also be possible to allow the requirements of regulation No.

Paragraph 6.5.2.

The purpose of this Regulation is to reduce the risk or seriousness of bodily injury to a person hit by the bodywork or brushing against it in the event of a collision.

The design of modern bumper systems for category N1 vehicles which are derived from category M1 vehicles differs significantly from the design of "classic" bumpers at the time the

regulation No. 61 was introduced. Most of these vehicles are not anymore equipped with classic rigid bumpers, but are rather equipped with a bumper system composed of an upper transverse beam protecting in case of a low speed impact with a vehicle or an object, and a lower transverse beam for covering the pedestrian protection requirements. The system also includes generally foam between these beams and the surface, named "bumper cover", covering the whole structures.

The application of the future regulation on pedestrian protection (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2010/127 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2011/51) will provide further protection for vulnerable road users (acceleration, shearing and bending criteria) in the area of the bumper. For this reason the compliance with the provisions of the first sentence of paragraph 6.5.2., which requires a radius of 5 mm for the outer bumper surface, becomes obsolete.