Highlights of the speech by Mr. A. N. Morozov, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, the Russian Federation at the 168th session of the World Forum WP.29

Dear Mr. Chairman! Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

Thank you for the opportunity of speaking, and I am pleased to welcome all the participants of the World Forum 168th session.

1. Let me briefly describe the situation with the Russian automobile market and the general measures addressed to ensure vehicle safety realized by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation.

Unfortunately, the Russian automotive market is experiencing not the best times – the production volume in 2015 decreased by 39% in comparison with the indicators of 2014, but at the same time, we continue to pay great attention to the issues of vehicle safety and reduction of pollutant emissions. Therefore, the Russian Federation actively participates in the development of the procedures of the international whole vehicle type approval, and our experts have positively contributed to this development.

We also supported the activities of the World Forum on the revision of the 1958 Geneva Agreement. We are pleased with the fact that the ideas expressed by the Russian experts about possibilities of granting type approvals according to the previous levels of requirements of UN Regulations were enshrined in the new draft text of the Agreement.

2. From 1 January 2014 we moved on to the application of Euro-5 emission standards for new vehicle types, and this year a decision will be made about the timing of transition to the Euro-6 level. On 1 January 2015 the Customs Union Technical Regulation Concerning Safety of Wheeled Vehicles – a uniform document for Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan – entered into force. It is based on the direct application of UN Regulations of the 1958 Agreement, UN Global Technical Regulations of the 1998 Agreement and UN Rules of the 1997 Agreement – a total of 112 international Regulations of the World Forum are included in that Technical Regulation.

Under this Regulation from 1January 2015 the mandatory equipment of new vehicle types with emergency call systems in case of accidents began to act. Currently the mass-produced vehicles of AvtoVAZ, Jaguar, FAW equipped with this system are released to the Russian market and more than 20 vehicle types are in the certification process.

We are grateful to all experts who supported the initiative of the Russian Federation on the development of a new UN Regulation regarded to emergency call systems, and who are participating in the relevant informal working group.

The Russian Federation is actively engaged in research and technical developments in the field of vehicle safety. Several projects were supported by the World Forum and implemented in the UN Regulations - already adopted and being developed, in particular: stability of vehicles carrying dangerous goods; strength of truck cabs; assessment method of tyre rolling resistance, which implementation is aimed at saving of energy resourses. Today Russia assumed the duties of the technical sponsor for the further development of the UN Global Technical Regulation on tyres and together with the European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation (ETRTO) has completed the first stage of this work. On behalf of the Ministry, let me assure you that this work will be completed on time.

We believe that the time has come to pay attention to air pollution caused by harmful products of tyre and brake lining wear, as well as to take additional measures to ensure air quality in vehicles cabins and passenger compartments. The relevant proposals have been made by the Russian delegates for discussion by the working groups of the World Forum.

Concluding my speech, I would like to reaffirm the commitment to the ideas of the Agreements under the competence of the World Forum. The Russian Federation appreciates the results achieved by the World Forum in enhancing safety and improving environmental performance of road vehicles.

Thank you for your attention.