Proposal to amend Special Resolution 2 (document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2016/65)

I. Proposal

Chapter II, section D, paragraph 2, item (h), amend to read:

"(h) Seek to minimize the use of options and/or modules in UN GTRs, with the aim of including the fewest possible compliance options, while recognizing the need for them in very limited cases, including accommodating differences in test equipment or facility availability. The term "Option" generally refers to alternative testing procedures for the same regulatory requirement. "Modules" generally refers to additional regulatory requirements, beyond an agreed core group that may be adopted by CPs. The concepts of alternatives, modules, and options are further described in Annex 1. Should other interpretations or situations related to the use of options or modules arise, they will be addressed in the same spirit as set forth in this paragraph or through additional harmonization development;"

Insert a new Annex 1, to read:

"Annex 1

Concepts of alternatives, modules, and options

- 1. "*Alternative*" means a part of a UN GTR where the manufacturer of the product has the choice between 2 alternatives, each of these alternatives having specific limits and/or test procedures. Each alternative shall be considered as fully equivalent and acceptable for the purpose of the UN GTR."
- 2. "Module" means a part of a UN GTR that is a self-standing provision or unique set of provisions, which a Contracting Party may adopt in addition to the core UN GTR text. A module does not contradict any one of the requirements of the core UN GTR or of other modules. A product meeting the core UN GTR as well as all modules of that UN GTR is deemed to comply with the whole set of the UN GTR. A product meeting the core UN GTR, but only some (or even none) of the modules, is not deemed to comply with the whole set of the UN GTR.
- 3. "*Option*" means a part of a UN GTR for which there are 2 or more mutually exclusive provisions regarding a single regulated item included in the UN GTR.

Each Contracting Party, when implementing the prescriptions of the UN GTR, will select the option(s) that satisfies its regulatory needs.

Options should only be considered if no agreement can be found on an alternative or modular approach.

II. Justification

Following discussions at the AC.3 session of March 2016, AC.3 in June 2016 adopted Special Resolution 2 (document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2016/65, submitted by the representatives of the European Union, Japan and United States of America).

AC.3 in March 2016 agreed that the document should be considered as a living document that may need to be completed/adapted at a later stage, taking into account that some of the raised comments might warrant further discussions, in particular the notion of options and modules (see ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1120, Paragraph 102).

OICA, representing the global auto industry, herewith re-confirms its strong support for Special Resolution 2 as reproduced in ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2016/65, since it represents an important step towards an improved functioning of the 1998 Agreement.

Taking into account the comments made at the March 2016 AC.3 session, OICA however believes that a further step is warranted in order to clarify the concepts of alternatives, modules, and options. OICA believes such clarification will constitute a further improvement and that it will help in the development of new or amended Global Technical Regulations.