

## **SIDE EVENT ON “AUTOMATION, CONNECTIVITY AND E-MOBILITY”**

On the occasion of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary  
of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee

### **CONCEPT NOTE**

#### **Time and Venue**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is organizing the side event on the “future of electrification and automation of vehicles”, with the support of the Government of Austria and the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations WP.29. The side event is organized as in-person meeting hosted from the Palais des Nations. It will be held on 23 February 2022 (**1 – 3 p.m., Salle XIX, Palais des Nations**), in conjunction with the seventy-fifth anniversary of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC).

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this event is to engage in discussions related to Electric and Automated Vehicles in the bigger role of achieving a sustainable future mobility system and contributing to achieving SDG 13 as well as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The policies discussed will address the transformations that will form the future of mobility, in terms of performance, use and ownership as well as impact on the society and climate. It will explore the role of industries, their achievements and future contributions.

This side event will be composed of 2 segments with the aim to comprehensively address the latest updates to international regulation, technological advances and the role of public and private sectors.

#### **Exhibition**

In conjunction with the 75<sup>th</sup> ITC anniversary, an exhibition will be organized to show-case activities of countries / institutions related to the thematic of the side event on Automation, Connectivity and E-mobility. The exhibition will include a demonstration related to electric vehicles.

The Exhibition will be opened by H.E. Ms. Elisabeth TICHY-FISSELBERGER together with the Executive Secretary of UNECE and USG, H.E. Ms Olga ALGAYEROVA on Tuesday 22 February 2022.

#### **Background**

The UNECE Inland Transport Committee is the United Nations Platform for Inland Transport and custodian of 59 legal instruments covering road, rail, inland waterways, border crossing facilitation and intermodal transport.

ITC activities cover, among others, regulatory activities for the certification and testing of vehicles including Electric and Automated Vehicles. This falls under the purview of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), a subsidiary body of ITC.

The World Forum's role and that of its Working Parties is to develop new UN Regulations, UN GTRs, or UN Rules, establishing a globally applicable legal framework for the certification and testing of vehicles within the areas covered by the three Vehicle Agreements<sup>1</sup> under its responsibility.

The World Forum addresses the priorities of the Contracting Parties, e.g. type approval provisions on hybrid, electric vehicles and on hydrogen fuel cells vehicles, and on vehicle automation and cyber security of automated vehicles. Special technical considerations are held in the subsidiary bodies of the World Forum.

- Active safety of vehicles and their parts (crash avoidance)
- Passive safety of vehicles and their parts (crashworthiness)
- Consideration on noise and tyres
- Environmental considerations on pollutants and energy consumption
- General safety considerations
- Automated/Autonomous and connected vehicles

This workshop focuses mainly on Environmental Considerations and Automated/Autonomous and connected vehicles.

Austria represented by H.E. Ms. Elisabeth TICHY-FISSELBERGER, Ambassador, is chairing Economic Commission for Europe for the term 2021-2023.

Having Austria as the Chair of the Commission for the ITC, allows for a unique opportunity to demonstrate the work done in the field of Electric Vehicles (EVs) and Automated Vehicles (AVs).

Austria has a very competitive industry and academic research in the fields of automotive, automotive software, specific silicones.

Over the last few years, Austria, has updated its laws to account for testing of higher-level Automated Vehicles, including the elements of permitted use, liability for damages and insurance requirements in accordance with national traffic codes and motor vehicle law.

In the field of EVs, Austria is currently in line with the EU Directive 2014/94/EU on alternative fuels infrastructure was implemented in 2016 through the "Clean Energy in Transport" policy framework.

---

<sup>1</sup> 1958 Agreement on Harmonized Technical United Nations Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles  
1997 Agreement on Uniform Conditions for Periodical Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles  
1998 Agreement on Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles