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| Submitted by the Secretariat | Informal document **WP.29-189-05**  (189th WP.29, 7 to 9 March 2023  Agenda item 1 |

**Concept Note on the 70th Anniversary Celebrations of WP.29**

**Time and Venue**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is organizing a celebration event at the opening of the 189th session of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations, WP.29. The event is in-person and will be hosted at the Palais des Nations. It will be held on 7 March 2023, from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm.

**Background**

The first session of WP.29 was held on 10 – 13 February 1953, with Belgium, France, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America (representing West Germany) in attendance. Over the past 70 years WP.29 has contributed to vehicle regulations in many ways and we would like to recognise this work.

WP.29’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[[1]](#footnote-2).

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

**Purpose**

This event focuses mainly on highlighting the work done over the past 70 years along with recognising the signature of the 1958 Agreement which was signed on the 20 March 1958. An agreement which will reach its 65th Anniversary in March 2023.

This event will be composed of reflections from the countries present at the establishment of the World Forum. Comments from former chairs, former secretaries and the industry will guide participants through the 70 years of WP.29 demonstrating the relevance then and now.

**Tentative Programme**

**Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations**

**65th Anniversary of the 1958 Agreement**

**10:30 – 12:30**

**Patronage:** TBD

**Moderato**r: A. Erario (WP.29 Chair)

* Session opening
* Welcome note from the Special Envoy for Road Safety
* Contribution by the Executive Secretary
* Contribution by the Director of the Sustainable Transport Division
* Interventions by the Contracting Parties that were present at the first session
* Intervention by former chairs
* Invention by former secretary
* Interventions by industry/NGOs representatives
* Coffee reception

1. 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 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)