

Proposal for an Informal Working Group on Automated Driving Systems (IWG on ADS)

I. Terms of Reference

1. ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2019/34/Rev.2, as modified by ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/151, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2023/43 and WP.29-191-31 contains the strategic vision for the activities of WP.29, GRVA and its Informal Working Groups (IWGs) with respect to automated vehicles. This framework document directs GRVA and its IWGs to use the issues, topics and deliverables from that document as guidance to inform further discussions, activities and outcomes.
2. At its 191st session WP.29 adopted a new working structure with a new Informal Working Group on Automated Driving Systems and GRVA workshops to launch and to undertake the work on regulatory activities for such systems. This follow-up is based on the activities of the two IWGs Functional Requirements for Automated and Autonomous Vehicles (FRAV) and Validation Methods for Automated Driving (VMAD) and their joint deliverable, namely the FRAV-VMAD integrated document (GRVA-18-50) to be adopted by WP.29 at its June 2024 session.
3. The IWG on ADS shall:
 - Work according to the principles outlined in the Framework Document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2019/34/Rev.2, as modified by ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2021/151, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2023/43 and WP.29-191-31;
 - Draft a regulatory text on ADS for the use under the 1958 and 1998 Agreements (purpose, scope, definition, general requirements, performance requirements, test procedures);
 - Combine the draft regulatory text with the specific administrative provisions and annexes received from GRVA workshops for the generation of the draft UN Global Technical Regulation on ADS and the draft UN Regulation on ADS;
 - Submit a draft regulatory proposal for a Global Technical Regulation on ADS;
 - Submit a draft regulatory proposal for a UN Regulation on ADS.
4. The IWG shall take full account of developments and work in full cooperation with other subsidiary Working Parties (GRs) of WP.29 and their IWGs.
5. The IWG shall take into account existing and any new data, research, and standards available to the contracting parties in developing its proposals and consider its relevance while aiming to respect the agreed timeline.

6. Based on the endorsement of GRVA-18-50 (incl. future amendments) and these Terms of Reference by WP.29 at its March 2024 session, the IWG shall start with a kick-off meeting in March 2024 to agree on the administrative elements, to draft a proposal for activities and timeline for the IWG on ADS, to start a first discussion on the content for the drafting process.
7. The IWG shall deliver draft proposals for a Global Technical Regulation on ADS and a UN Regulation on ADS for the January 2026 session of GRVA.
8. The text of regulatory proposals shall, to the fullest extent possible, be performance based and technology neutral.

II. Rules of Procedure

1. The IWG shall report to GRVA and is open to all participants of WP.29.
 2. Six Co-Chairs from different regions of the world and Secretaries will manage the IWG
 3. The Co-Chairs may invite experts (at their discretion), including non-participants of WP.29, to assist in the development of technical prescriptions.
 4. The working language of the IWG will be English.
 5. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of the relevant group in a suitable electronic format in advance of the meeting. The group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated five working days in advance to the meeting.
 6. An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the IWG in advance of all scheduled meetings.
 7. A meeting report will be prepared and distributed to all experts involved in the IWG in due time after each meeting. It will be adopted at the next meeting of the IWG.
 8. Decisions will be reached by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Co-Chairs of the groups shall present the different points of view to GRVA. The Co-Chairs may seek guidance from GRVA as appropriate.
 9. The progress of the IWG will be reported routinely to GRVA – wherever possible as an informal document and presented by the Co-Chairs.
 10. All documents shall be distributed in digital format. Meeting documents should be made available to the [Secretaries] for publication on the dedicated website.
 11. Final decision on regulatory proposals rests with WP.29 and the Contracting Parties.
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