

Draft meeting minutes
4rd Session of the Informal Working Group
on Automotive Life Cycle Assessment (IWG on A-LCA)

Webex Meeting: Remote only

Venue:

GRPE Webex

13 February 2023, 11.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. CET

Meeting documents available at:

<https://wiki.unece.org/display/trans/A-LCA+4th+Meeting>

Agenda

Time		Agenda item	Lead	Working Paper	Purpose or Target
11:30 ~	1	Welcome and introduction	Chairs	NA	Information share
~11:40	2	Adoption of the agenda	Chairs	*A-LCA-04-01	Agreement
~11:50	3	Adoption of the last meeting minutes	Secretariat	**A-LCA-03-07	Agreement
~12:10	4	Explanation of Finalised ToR	Chairs	***GRPE-87-39r1e	Information share
including Break ~13:40	5	Overall timeline and sub-group structure	Chairs	**A-LCA-03-03 04	Discuss and reflect to the original proposals
		Proposals/Feedbacks from IWG member +	Korea US tbd	**A-LCA-03-06 *A-LCA-04-02 *A-LCA-04-xx	
~13:50	6	Date and location for the next IWG	Chairs	NA	Information share
~14:00	7	Any other business	Chairs	NA	

+ It'd be appreciated if your written proposals/feedbacks were sent to Leading Team prior to the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and introduction

The chair welcomes the participants to the 4th A-LCA meeting and presented the agenda.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

No remarks have been raised with regards to the agenda.

Agenda was adopted by all participants.

See Document: A-LCA-04-01

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/192840245/A-LCA-04-01_Draft%20agenda.pdf?api=v2

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of last meeting minutes

The chair presented the meeting minutes of last session (3rd session of 09/01/2023).

See document A-LCA-03-07_Draft_Meeting_minutes.pdf:

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/190087382/A-LCA-03-07_Draft_Meeting_minutes.pdf?api=v2

The chair highlighted that the possibility has been given to CPs to submit written input for this February Session. No comments from CPs were received.

- EU Commission suggested to amend the April dates to 12 & 13 April 2023.

The minutes were adopted.

Agenda Item 4: Explanation of Finalised ToR

The Chair presented the finalized ToR and indicated that they have been approved by the GRPE.

See document GRPE-87-39r1e.pdf

[GRPE-87-39r1e.pdf \(unece.org\)](https://www.unece.org/GRPE-87-39r1e.pdf)

In order to proceed, the Chair quickly reviewed the finalized ToR.

- Reference was made to the discussion on the possibility to include or not the cumulative energy consumption.
- The Chair explained that the GRPE has approved the ToR after agreeing on this remaining outstanding question.

No comments were raised, and the ToR is therefor considered as approved by the IWG A-LCA.

Agenda Item 5: Overall timeline and subgroup structure

Presentation of Timeline:

The chair clarifies that the sub-group structure is still an open topic as well as the overarching topics. The Chair presented and reviewed Japan's proposal for timeline and subgroups (document A-LCA-03-03).

This document shows the to do list with overarching aspects to define before starting subgroups and a list of items for each potential subgroup. To keep the timing, the group needs to start soon defining the overarching subjects and subgroup structure.

After the presentation, no comments or questions were raised.

The chair mentioned again the additional documents 03-04 PCR draft, no detailed discussion was started today, just a reminder that the document is on the share point.

The Chair also made reference to the draft document with overarching aspects which they added to the Wiki.

See document A-LCA-03-03_Overall Timeline_v1.xlsx

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/190087382/A-LCA-03-03_Overall%20timeline_v1.xlsx?api=v2

See document A-LCA-03-04, the Product Category Rules (PCR) for Vehicles

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/190087382/A-LCA-03-04_PCR_draft.docx?api=v2

See document A-LCA-04-02_Starting note of overarching aspects

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/192840245/A-LCA-04-02_Starting%20note%20of%20overarching%20aspects.pdf?api=v2

Presentation by participants on the subgroup structure:

a. Korea: Proposes 3 subgroups:

- SG 1: Materials, Recycling and end-of-life
- SG2: Supply Chain & Vehicle OEM (and maintenance)
- SG3: Use Phase (fuel cycle)
 - *Question from EU Commission (JRC): Is Usage Phase equal to well to wheel? → Korea confirmed this.*
 - *Remark from Japan: Prefers to keep EOL out of SG1, but rather do this in a separate subgroup. → Korea is open for this idea as well.*
 - *Question from J. Balsat, WBCSD: Will there be room to compare also electricity consumption between regions and how do you expect to have the needed content? → Electricity that is used by region should be included.*
 - *Question from the Chair: Electricity use is needed for the use phase, but how to include the electricity use during production and materials phase? → Understand the need, but we need to discuss to what extent it should be included.*
It depends if a top down or bottom-up approach will be adopted. It depends on the overarching topics discussion. Korea sees the value in connecting the phases. Needed further discussion.
 - *Comments from Jean Balsat (WBCSD): EOL might be better to discuss in a separate group with specific stakeholder and timeline may be longer.*

b. Proposal from CLEPA:

CLEPA reviewed the different interpretations that have been presented during the last discussions. A comparison shows lots of communalities between the different proposals, CLEPA tried to identify what is already well aligned and where are differences.

The use phase was specific in all proposals, as well as the verification and data qualification and the drafting subgroups.

CLEPA suggests combining the overarching aspects with the verification and data qualification topic.

CLEPA suggests also to combine the parts and vehicle production and to combine the raw material production with the material recycling. End-of-Life should be a separate subgroup as different processes than recycling are involved as dismantling, reconditioning and re-use.

CLEPA also recommends an individual group for fuel and energy.

Based on these proposals, CLEPA suggested a compromise proposal with 7 subgroups:

- SG1: Overarching aspects & verification
- SG2: Materials & Material Recycling
- SG3: Parts & Vehicle Production (inhouse & outhouse production)
- SG4: Use Phase
- SG5: End Of Life
- SG6: Fuel & Energy Cycle
- SG7: Drafting

See document A-LCA-04-03_CLEPA_Proposal for SGs

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/192840245/A-LCA-04-03_CLEPA_Proposal%20for%20SGs.pdf?api=v2

- *Comment from chair: Personally, thinks that this is a good compromise proposal, but before deciding on a subgroup structure the overarching topics have to be discussed*
- *Comment from US: thanked CLEPA and very much likes the proposal. However, a link between SG4 and SG6 is needed given these groups are intertwined to a higher degree than the other groups.*
- *Remark from OICA: Agrees with the proposal but believes that SG2 & SG3 are intertwined. But she agrees with this structure and believe this is a good start that might change once the overarching aspects have been approved and finalized.
→ CLEPA totally agreed with OICA and believes this is a good start which could be further tweaked in parallel with the discussion of scope and goals.*
- *Remark from Ricardo: Ricardo indicated that they agree with the compromise proposal from CLEPA. They agree also on the need to confirm the over-arching aspect content. The Excel planning file provides some indication on this (including items in the Goal(s) & Scope). In addition, overlap will always exist and cooperation between the groups will be needed. They also indicated ongoing discussions within the EU on LCA having started the Transensus project for a harmonized LCA approach.*
- *Question from the chair: May Ricardo present the Transensus project to the whole*

group?

- *Ricardo: May be useful to present the Transensus project at a future A-LCA IWG meeting. It would be useful that not Ricardo but the project coordinator Fraunhofer presents the project, it is important to achieve a harmonized approach.
It is important to define the goal, different goals for LCA may call for differences in data quality, examples are the goal of product declaration for a finished product where different manufacturers are to be compared, or the goal to drive product development. Different data have to be chosen.
LCA methodology has to meet legislative requirement, which may result in different choices for data. It is important to understand what we develop the methodology for.
See battery regulation which will set specific product targets in the future.*
- *Comment from chair: The application of the LCA method depends on national policies. Maximize the harmonized part is the goal. The introduction of the EU activity may be helpful for better understanding.*
- *CLEPA confirmed the importance of collaboration between all SG's through the overarching group.*
- *Comment from EU Commission: Thanked CLEPA and agrees with most of the proposal. The proposal echo's almost all remarks raised and is in line with the necessity to have good understanding how the different groups reinforce each other. The EU highlighted the importance to link the subgroups and the overarching aspects. WG 1 could be either the IWG itself or a specific SG.*
- *Question from Ichikawa with regards to the EU's position during the GRPE meeting. Where the EU indicated that they don't want to much WG's.
→ CLEPA provided a clear and concise answer.*

No additional comments and remarks were raised. The Chair thanked the participants for their input. Following the discussions, the Chair indicated that for each of the Subgroups a leadership team should be identified in the coming months.

Presentation Chair on the overarching aspects:

The Chair indicated that these overarching aspects can contain several topics of importance to all working groups (goals, activities, boundaries, ...).

- The Chair proposed that the SG's should function in full autonomy and that the SG's should explain and convince the IWG about their plans. If one group has a plan, it can go fast. Defining the work to be done will be very important.
- The Chair informed the participants about how they see the things evolve in the coming months.
Candidates for leaders are invited to make themselves known. It is requested to explain a planning and deliverables. If there is no leader for a SG, the task will be taken by the IWG
The chair stated that there is especially a need for candidates to lead the use phase, other groups can be considered later.
Candidates to work on overarching aspects are also needed, the working group structure is still open.
Candidates should send their candidature by e-mail after meeting.

- *Question from OICA: Is it planned that the SG leaderships present in April or in May?*
→ *The Chair indicated that the SG on Usage Phase could already be defined today, after discussing the tasks of the Subgroups. The Chair confirmed that we would discuss the Subgroups next time and that the overarching aspects are to be determined before GRPE 89.*
- CLEPA proposed to have a clear timeline for the SG's leaderships in order to submit positions and in order to identify by when CP's and NGO's should submit their position.
→ The Chair confirmed that the submission is still open.
 - *The EU Commission also had a question about the timeline and wondered which rules and groups are needed. Candidates for subgroups are requested before the subgroups are defined. The question is how much candidatures can be put forward before the group structure is available.*
It is important to reflect which expertise stakeholders can bring in and in which groups.
 - *Comment Korea: Most groups are known. Further refinement should come with the candidates.*
The use phase has not so much a role (drive cycles etc). Can it be joined with fuels subgroup?
 - *Comment Chair: It is difficult to define the boundaries between groups within the leading team. The chair invites candidates to work with the leading team, volunteers to help are needed.*

BREAK

After the break, the Chair indicated again that the SG's should be defined in the coming months.

- *Question from OICA: What is the timeline here?*
- *Suggestion OICA: Have the final SG's defined during the next meeting based on the ongoing discussions but to at the same time proceed with the work and the overarching aspects.*

The Chair confirmed that:

1. The structure of the SG's is still open, CP's and NGO's are invited to submit their request via e-mail
2. The Chair invites any participant to contact the leadership team in order to provide support on the overarching aspects.

Proposal of Japan on overarching aspects:

Japan presented document A-LCA-04-04 and proposed a start for identifying the overarching aspects within the existing timeframe.

- *Question from the Chair: Need for clarification of priority for vehicle categories: Are Cat 1 and 2 considered for the deadline November 2025, and cat 3 for later.?*
- Japan confirms. If resources will be available, this can be done until 2025, but

depends on resources

See document A-LCA-04-04_Overarching aspects and subgroups_JPN

https://wiki.unece.org/download/attachments/192840245/A-LCA-04-04_Overarching%20aspects%20and%20subgroups_JPN.xlsx?api=v2

No further questions or remarks were raised.

Agenda item 6: Schedule for future meetings

Following the discussions and in preparation of the upcoming meetings, the Chair provided an overview of the upcoming meetings and discussions.

CALENDAR:

5th A-LCA Session

Webex meeting (<i>Online</i>)	20 th March 2023	11h30-14h00 CET
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88th GRPE Session

In-person meeting (<i>Geneva</i>)	12 April 2023	12h30-17h30CET
	13 April 2023	09h30-17h30CET

7th A-LCA Session

Webex meeting (<i>Online</i>)	XX May 2023	TBC
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8th A-LCA Session

Hybrid* meeting (<i>Geneva</i>)	30 May 2023	TBC
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89th GRPE Session

<i>Hybrid* meeting (Geneva)</i>	<i>30 May 2023</i>	<i>TBC</i>
	<i>01 June 2023</i>	<i>TBC</i>
	<i>02 June 2023</i>	<i>TBC</i>

* Please note that Hybrid Meetings are planned as such, but that they are depended on the situation. As such, please note that a Webex-link can't be assured with 100% certainty.

Following several questions, a Webex-link to the April meeting in Geneva will probably be very difficult. The GRPE secretariat confirmed that, as it stands, there will be no Webex-link available.

Agenda item 7: Any Other Business?

No additional remarks or questions were raised by the participants.

The Chair formally ended the meeting and thanked all participants for their input.

ANNEXES

Participants list: (68 participants)

