

17th STCBC Meeting**Safer Transport of Children in Buses and Coaches**

Date: 30 August 2023

Time : 09.30h-17h CET

Location: CLEPA, Brussels, Belgium.

1) Welcome & Meeting Arrangements (Chair, Marta)

Marta (Chair, Spain) welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked CLEPA for hosting.

2) Adoption of the agenda – [STCBC-17-01](#) (All)

The Agenda was adopted with no changes.

3) Highlights from GRSP and GRSG

Marta noted that no meetings of GRSP or GRSG have taken place since the last meeting of this Informal Group.

4) Drafting of the new ToR - [STCBC-17-02](#) (All)

Marta presented the working draft of the new Terms of Reference of the Informal Group ([STCBC-17-02](#)). She explained that comments made at the previous meeting had been addressed in this latest version. She reminded the Group that her aim is to finish in 2025, which is ambitious, but achievable. Phase 2 will be presented to GRSP as an Informal Document to the 76th session in December 2024, with the Working Document scheduled for the 77th session in May 2025. However, the current mandate of the Group ends in 2024 and so this timeline will need to be agreed by GRSP.

Marta emphasised the objective of the Group in Phase 2, which is to define the technical provisions needed in the new regulation to transport children in buses and coaches equipped with two-point seat belts. She added that the priority will be to ensure good retention of the child in the seat, consistent with that provided for adults, particularly to avoid ejection.

Rudolf (Germany) suggested that the new Terms of Reference are sent to GRSG, as an Informal Document for information. He added that GRSG could also be mentioned somewhere in the Terms of Reference. Marta agreed that the Terms of Reference should be shared with GRSG, but reminded the Group that they fall under the responsibility of GRSP and so only GRSP can approve or adopt the Terms of Reference.

The Terms of Reference were adopted by the Group following some minor editorial changes. Marta will submit them as a Working Document to the 74th session of GRSP in December 2023. She thanked the Group for their input.

5) Review of the open issues and decisions – [STCBC-17-03](#) (All)

Marta introduced the spreadsheet document that will be used to track the important issues and decisions made by the Group during the development of Phase 2 of the Regulation (STCBC-17-03). The spreadsheet provides a record of the status, decisions and actions agreed by the Group at this meeting. Of particular note, the Group agreed that a front impact test programme would help inform their decision on the use of a test bench for the dynamic test of the CRS. Two options will be compared in the test programme: a real bus seat, strengthened for repeated use and the UN R129 test bench. Marta asked OICA for a representative bus seat and asked CLEPA for a sample of CRS.

a. Federal Association of German Bus Companies (BDO)

The presentation from BDO was postponed to a future meeting.

b. TÜV Rheinland qualification mark for CRS fit for use in aircraft – [STCBC-17-04](#)

David (TÜV Rheinland) presented an overview of the TÜV Rheinland aircraft qualification scheme for CRS. This scheme provides an additional means of approval for UN R44 and UN R129 CRS to be used on aircraft. It comprises a static test of the compatibility of the CRS with standard aircraft seat widths and belt lengths and a dynamic test of the CRS with a 2-point belt. The dynamic test may be carried out with the UN R44/R129 crash pulse and test bench, or with the SAE AS8049 16 g aviation pulse with a special aircraft seat provided by TÜV Rheinland. There are no biomechanical criteria on the basis that any CRS is likely to be preferable to double seat occupancy with an adult. Instead, the CRS is assessed for its capacity to retain the child without significant damage to the CRS (i.e., structural failure, sharp edges, etc.).

6) Confirmation of tasks and responsibilities

Actions were recorded in the working spreadsheet ([STCB-17-03](#)).

7) AOB

No other business was discussed.

8) Next meeting

The next meeting was provisionally scheduled for October 13, 2023, on-line.

Appendix 1 – Attendees

In person

Marta Angles – Chair	Spain
Dinos Visvikis – Secretary	CLEPA
Kai Neumann	BDO
Ronald Vroman	Consumers International
John Taylor	CPT
Rudolf Gerlach	Germany
Britta Schnottale	Germany
Sagar Singamsetty	IRU
Stasa Mrdovic	IRU
Michael Becker	OICA
Philippe Lesire	OICA
Miriam Asiain Fernandez	Spain

On-line

Daniel Kutschkin	Australia
Anaïs Garo	France
David Toth	Germany
Michael Demary	Germany
Yoshinori Tanaka	Japan
Kazumi Watanabe	Japan
Koraro Mori	Japan
Irina Dausse	OICA
Tomasz Lorenc-Osowski	OICA
Christina Echemendia	United States