Proposal for draft amendments to Regulation No. 121 (location and identification of hand controls, tell-tales and indicators)

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from the Informal Group on Accident Emergency Call System (IG-AECS) in order to add new requirements on "Emergency call control and tell-tale".

A. Proposal

Table 1, insert new item 44 and introduce a new references to footnote 20, to read:

6	6	

No.	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
	ITEM	SYMBOL <u>2</u> /	FUNCTION	ILLUMINATION	COLOUR
44	Accident Emergency Call System (AECS)	SOS	Control	Yes	-
		SOS 20/	Tell-tale	-	-

Insert a new footnote 20/, to read:

"20/ Identification only required for that part of the control which is designed to reduce the risk of inadvertent activation. Text can be displayed in uppercase and/or lowercase letters."

B. Justifications

- The GRSG informal group on AECS is currently addressing the issue of Human/Machine Interface (HMI).
 With regard to warning indication, the group agreed that the Ecall regulation should focus on when the
 warning shall be given to the driver, while the HMI dedicated regulation (i.e. UNR121 controls and tell-tales)
 should address how the warning shall be given. Similar approach is accepted with regard to the AECS manual
 control.
- 2. The inclusion of a row dedicated to the symbol n° 44 is consistent with the above approach. The item is called "Accident Emergency Call System (AECS)" because, in the current version of the draft regulation on AECS, AECS is defined as Accident Emergency Call Device when installed in the vehicle.
- 3. The proposed symbols are taken from the ISO 2575/A1 Standard, 2011 edition. As in the ISO standard, the proposal lets the choice between the wording "SOS" and the same wording accompanied with the phone icon. There is indeed a wide recognition that certain very common texts or words (such as "SOS") can be used and understood as symbols, as it is already the case for the words "START" and "STOP" per the existing footnote N°19.
- 4. The proposal addresses both the control and the tell-tale, where the tell-tale is part of the AECS information and warning signal foreseen in the draft AECS regulation. As an important safety-related item, the manual control should be illuminated per paragraph 5.3.1. of UN R121.

5. There is an additional footnote because the draft regulation on AECS requires that the "AECS control shall be designed and/or placed in such a way that the risk of an inadvertent activation is reduced". Some means of achieving this requirement is by adding a protective cover. In this case, only that part of the control should have mandatory identification.

