



Executive Secretary  
*Under-Secretary-General*

Ref.: 2017/ OES/311/TRANS

12 October 2017

Excellency,

I have the honour of writing to you further to a request from the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) to provide you with background information on the Database for the Exchange of Vehicle Type Approvals (DETA) and invite voluntary contributions.

The 1958 Agreement on harmonized technical United Nations regulations for the approval of wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts and their reciprocal recognition by its Contracting Parties relies on the exchange of information on granted approvals among the authorities of its member countries. Traditionally, such information has been shared among relevant government authorities by post or fax, which takes time, can be cumbersome and costly. Advancements in information and communication technology provide new opportunities for information sharing.

Revision 3 to the 1958 Agreement requests the establishment of the electronic database (DETA). The Contracting Parties identified UNECE, the custodian of the 1958 Agreement, as the neutral place to host DETA.

DETA aims to enhance the efficiency of the exchange of important information related to the construction of road vehicles. Further, it is expected to significantly increase the performance of the automotive sector governance and thus contribute to the progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Her Excellency  
Ms. Elzbieta Bienkowska  
Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry,  
Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission  
Brussels

During the 172nd session of the World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), 20-23 June 2017, some Member States indicated that certain Countries would be willing to contribute to the costs related to DETA. Further, potential private donors from the automotive sector indicated that they would be willing to contribute to costs for the development of additional functionalities, which would provide added value to their activities. Such contributions, however, would be subject to the hosting of DETA in UNECE based on sustainable financing arrangements.

The overall cost for establishing and running DETA over five years is estimated at around 3,610,000 USD. For further details on DETA, kindly refer to the attached background note.

In light of the significant benefits to be expected, I kindly invite Member States to consider a voluntary financial contribution towards hosting DETA in UNECE. Mr. Francois Guichard ([francois.guichard@unece.org](mailto:francois.guichard@unece.org)), project officer for DETA in the Sustainable Transport Division, is available to provide further information on the Database for the Exchange of Vehicle Type Approvals.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration



Olga Algayerova

Enclosure: Background note on the Database for the Exchange of Vehicle Type Approvals