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VERBAL NOTE

The European Commission services present their compliments to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and has the honour to bring the latter's knowledge the following:

In accordance with Article 7.4 of of the Agreement Concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, done at Geneva on 25 June 1998, the status of **Global Technical Regulation No. 7 - Head Restraints** in European Union law is as stated below.

The following steps have been taken during the past year. An initiative has been taken in order to transpose the requirements of Global Technical Regulation No. 7 into the existing UN-ECE Regulation No. 17 by means of working document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2009/15. For the purpose of EU vehicle type-approval, UN-ECE Regulation No. 17 is considered to be equivalent to the legislation currently in force in the European Union, namely Directive 74/408/EEC relating to motor vehicles with regard to the seats, their anchorages and head restraints, as last amended. The above mentioned working document also contains specific rulemaking with regard to active head restraints. These rules have not yet been incorporated within the GTR, but it is foreseen that these are to be included with the completion of phase 2 of the GTR.

The anticipated date to reach a final decision is currently not yet known as the work related to the abovementioned effort is still ongoing. The European Commission will continue to participate actively in the completion process of transposing the GTR rules into the UN-ECE Regulation.

The European Commission services avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe the assurances of their highest consideration.