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Item 4.8.3 of the provisional agenda

1958 Agreement – Consideration of draft amendments to existing Regulations submitted by GRRF

Proposal for Supplement 3 to the 01 series of amendments to Regulation No. 55 (Mechanical coupling)

Submitted by the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear*

The text reproduced below was adopted by the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) at its sixty-ninth session to clarify the definition of secondary coupling device. It is based on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2011/4, as amended by Annex V to the report (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/69, para. 22). It is submitted to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and to the Administrative Committee (AC.1) for consideration.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208/, para. 106 and ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

Paragraph 2.16., amend to read:

"2.16. "Secondary coupling device" means a chain, wire rope, etc., fitted to a Class B coupling head as defined in paragraph 2.6.2., capable in the event of separation of the main coupling, of ensuring that the trailer remains connected to the towing vehicle and that there is some residual steering action."

Annex 7, insert a new paragraph 1.2.3., to read:

"1.2.3. The design of the drawbar including the coupling head for use on O₁ and O₂ centre axle trailers shall be such as to prevent the coupling head from digging into the ground in the event of separation from the main coupling."
