

# **Car industry: approval of motor vehicles with regard to the forward field of vision of the motor vehicle driver, UN/ECE Regulation**

2006/0041(AVC) - 20/03/2006 - Initial legislative proposal

**PURPOSE** : to enable the Commission representative to vote on the draft Regulation concerning the approval of motor vehicles with regard to the forward field of vision of the driver on behalf of the Community at a forthcoming meeting of the UN/ECE World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations.

**PROPOSED ACT** : Council Decision.

**CONTENT** : by Council Decision 97/836/EC of 27 November 1997, the European Community became a Contracting Party to the 1958 Revised Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). That Decision took effect on 24 March 1998.

Article 4 of that Decision stipulates, *inter alia*, that where a draft Regulation of the UN/ECE is submitted to a vote within the appropriate UN/ECE bodies, the draft in question must be approved by the Council, after obtaining assent from the European Parliament, before the Community can declare itself in favour of adopting the draft.

The agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations of the UN/ECE will include, in particular, a vote on a (new) draft Regulation concerning the approval of motor vehicles with regard to the forward field of vision of the driver.

The main purpose of the draft Regulation is to establish harmonised technical prescriptions, thereby avoiding the creation of technical barriers to trade in motor vehicles between the Contracting Parties, while ensuring a high level of safety to the driver. Specifically, the draft regulation will enable to ensure an adequate field of vision through the windscreen and other glazing. The Commission therefore considers that it would be desirable for the EC to vote in favour of this (new) draft Regulation. It is also provided that this draft Regulation shall become part of the type-approval system for motor vehicles because the scope of the Council Directive 77/649/EC, as last amended by the Commission Directive 90/630/EC is similar to the one of this draft Regulation.