PROJECT GROUP: SAFER VEHICLES

MINUTES AND ATTENDANCE

DATE: 30 OCTOBER 2019
TIME: 9:30 – 10:30
DEPUTY CHAIR: JOHN CHATTERTON-ROSS

Present:
John Chatterton-Ross (Deputy chair) JCR
Gabriel Kardos, Johnson & Johnson GK
Walter Nissler, UN ECE WN
Edoardo Gianotti, UN ECE EG
Luis Felipe Lota, Ministry of Transport, Government of Columbia LFL
Juan David Colorado, Ministry of Transport, Government of Columbia JDC

Excused:
David Ward, President and CEO of the Towards Zero Foundation

JCR opened the meeting and explained that David Ward was excused as he was in a parallel meeting this morning here in the WHO-OMS building on planning for the forthcoming UN conference in February 2020 to be held in Stockholm, Sweden.

Updates from Global NCAP:

JCR reported on the information supplied by David Ward for recent developments. All were very encouraging and he was sure would be very well received by Dr Krug and other colleagues when this meeting reported back to the plenary in the afternoon. He summarised them:

1. In 2020 there would be the second World Congress of Global NCAP. The first had been held in India in 2018. This new event will take place every two years. The next edition will be in 2020 in Beijing, China on 20-23.10.20.
2. Interesting results had been obtained in recent car testing. Within the Latin American region, the best selling car was now the Chevy Onix. The latest version (which is manufactured in Brazil) has achieved a 5-star rating.
3. In addition to the fitting of ESC (Electronic Stability Control) this vehicle was designed to meet the pedestrian protection standards. – i.e. A softer and more forgiving front to the vehicle designed to minimise injury to pedestrians.
4. The above achievements were way above regulatory standards in most of Latin America.
5. The Chevy Onix in its latest form is now the best-selling car in Latin America.
6. More results from testing vehicles in the Indian market would be published soon by Global NCAP.
7. ASEAN NCAP have a new protocol – they will not award 5-star rating to any car unless it has also been fitted with blind spot detection technology.

GK welcomed this news. He noted that the Chevy Onix was previously only a 3-star car and now it was achieving 5 stars this was good news.

Traffic safety in Columbia:

LFL and JDC gave a presentation on the current situation in Columbia. They explained that Parliament was engaged in discussions on adopting more of the UN regulations. If this was achieved it could influence the whole market in Latin America.

EG commented on this and explained that UN ECE was partnering with the Columbian authorities to advance this agenda.

EG explained that in the capital city of Bogotá there were around 900,000 users of bicycles. In other areas of the country the motorcycle was more often seen in traffic.

Discussion on motorcycling issues:

JCR reminded the meeting that it had been agreed some time ago that Pillar 2 should also include discussions on motorcycle rider helmets and clothing. These were not part of a “vehicle” but were relevant.

WN and EG spoke about the revision of UN 22 the motorcycle helmet standard.

JCR asked about the progress of this. Would it pass UN ECE WP 29 GRSP in December? Or would it be delayed for more talks at member state level?

WN and EG replied that as the working group had been followed closely by members of GRSP that they thought it would pass the December 2019 meeting in the Palais des Nations.

JCR asked when this would be ratified by UN ECE WP 29.

WN and EG thought that this would take place at the next plenary of UN ECE WP29 in June 2020.

Discussion on new developments in achieving UN 22 standard for light weight “tropical” motorcycle helmets for use in Asia and Latin America:

JCR reminded members that the German company Cratoni was producing a (very expensive!) lightweight cycling helmet that met the requirements of UN 22 the motorcycle helmet standard.

FIM was interested to see if this quality of ventilated helmet could be manufactured at a lower cost for the Asian and Latin American markets.

GK was interested in this. Johnson and Johnson were a supporter of the work of the AIP Foundation in Vietnam.

JCR said FIM will research this and report back to the March 2020 session of UN ECE WP1 on this. FIM will work with AIP Foundation to look into this. The work will include purchasing Cratoni UN 22 standard helmets and taking them apart to see how these were made.

The meeting was closed at 10h30 and it was agreed that JCR would give the report back to the afternoon plenary session.