



Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles
International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers

PRESS RELEASE

OICA APPEALS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO FUEL QUALITY AS A KEY FOR IMPROVED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Paris, France, 16 November 2011 – The International Organisation of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers makes a strong appeal towards improved fuel quality standards.

The OICA President Patrick Blain declared: "At its November 2011 meeting, the United Nations World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations adopted a Recommendation, sent to all countries worldwide, making a clear link between vehicle environmental performance and the fuel quality (gasoline or diesel) that propels these vehicles. We strongly support this move as an important 1st step, since all too often the entire burden to "clean up" vehicle emissions is placed on the shoulders of the auto industry, forgetting that the quality of the fuel used in the vehicles has a key role to play, not only to allow the vehicle equipment such as convertors, filters, etc. to function properly, but also to reduce on its own the pollutants emitted."

Patrick Blain however cautioned that "the adopted recommendation is only a timid first step towards improved global environmental protection. It unfortunately is far from perfect because it only addresses a very few key parameters, such as lead and sulphur, but forgets that many others are quite important as well, as indicated by several scientific studies. It is therefore very important that all countries worldwide, especially in the emerging markets, are made well aware that a comprehensive set of

fuel quality parameters is needed to ensure that the most modern vehicle technologies can be fitted on vehicles everywhere. They also have to understand that good quality fuels will have an immediate benefit since also the existing vehicles, already on the road, will show improved environmental performance."

Patrick Blain concluded that "The global automobile industry hopes that the United Nations World Forum for Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations will continue its important work and further develop the recommendation on fuel quality, in order to achieve a comprehensive and complete list of fuel parameters to be taken into account by all governments worldwide. The global auto industry, represented by OICA, is ready to offer its full expertise and cooperation in the preparation of this 2nd step."

OICA: Founded in 1919 in Paris, the International Organization of Motor Vehicle manufacturers is made up of 40 members representing key players in the automobile industry around the world. OICA provides expertise in global policymaking forums. OICA's other missions include coordinating the harmonization of vehicle regulations, collecting and consolidating international statistics, providing information on the industry's accomplishments, visions and priorities, and coordinating international motor vehicle exhibitions.

For further information:

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