

**UN ECE - WORKING GROUP HYDROGEN FUEL
CELL VEHICLES – SUG GROUP ENVIRONMENT –
HFCV-SGE**

MINUTES – 2nd MEETING

UNECE - Geneva – Monday, January 16th 2006 9:30 – 12:30

Chairman: Mr. Adolfo Perujo, EC-JRC
Secretariat: Mr. Pierre Laurent, OICA.

INTRODUCTION

The Chairman welcomed the attendees, opened the meeting and wished everyone a Very Happy New Year, a Good Health and a lot of success for 2006.

UNECE Secretariat reminded the usual administrative information.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Documents: HFCV-SGE-2A
HFCV-SGE-2A (A. Perujo Rev.)

The Group adopted the Chairman's revised agenda presentation (Annex 1).

2. ADOPTION OF THE 1st HFCV-SGE WG MEETING (Ispra, Italy)

Document: HFCV-SGE-1

- Circulated to the meeting attendees only, no comments had, since, been notified to the secretariat.
- The secretary was entrusted to and re-circulated the minutes to the whole HFCV SGE WG.
- Comments are expected by the Chairman and the secretariat for mid-February at the latest. If required, the minutes will be revised.
- Otherwise they will be considered as adopted.

3. UPDATES ABOUT THE 136th and 137th WP.29 SESSIONS

Documents: TRANS/WP.29/1041 (136th WP.29)
TRANS/WP.29/1047 (137th WP.29)
Informal Document N^o WP.29-136-24 (D, J, USA)
Informal Document N^o WP.29-137-13/Rev.1 (HFCV Project Manager)

Mr. Ch. Albus, D, presented, as HFCV Project Manager, and summarised WP.29's decisions; he reminded the proposal tabled at WP.29/AC.3 regarding the implementation of a roadmap for a GTR on Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles, HFCV and he then outlined the new HFCV structure:

1. Consideration of the further possible developments regarding Passive Safety and Environmental Aspects.
2. Coordination of the two subgroups (SGE under GRPE and SGS under GRSP) by a Project Manager directly reporting to AC.3.

The HFCV Project Manager also highlighted the status report to WP.29/AC.3:

1. First progresses on the development of the GTR and the modifications in the structure of the Informal Group;
2. Consolidated reporting about the SGS and SGE activities by the Project Manager to WP.29/AC.3.
3. The 1st HFCV-SGS-WG meeting, Tokyo, Japan, in October 2005, proceeded without a Chairperson. In a nutshell it addressed: The new Japanese HFCV vehicles' legislation and the subsequent pre-normative research. The group paid an interesting visit to JARI's test facilities. EC confirmed its intentions to draft an HFCV Regulation and US notified some implementation delays for its 4 Year Plan.

Outcomes:

1. The Ispra, Italy, meeting should be considered as the 1st HFCV-SGE-WG meeting, the Monday, January 16th, 2006 Informal becoming the 2nd one.
2. Upon request from WP.29/AC.3 and as soon as the structuring issues are solved, the HFCV WG documentation will be posted on UNECE's website.
3. In the meantime OICA will provide its website's support.

1. OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT REGULATORY SITUATION: EU, JAPAN, USA

Documents: NIHIL

Japan (J) recalled issuing its national legislation and technical standards in March 2005 and previously explaining them (Geneva and Tokyo meetings). J notified that two FCVs had, since, been approved.

USA was not represented during the meeting.

EC reported its work was ongoing. The Regulation might soon be expected, no provisional schedule was available.

2. REVIEW OF THE ITEM LIST TO BE ADRESSED BY THE SGE WG: ISO, MATRIXES, ETC

An overview of the issues agreed upon during the Ispra, Italy, meeting were presented and were considered as still valid.

The Chair presented an overview about the need for extra research or for individual research work (e.g.: Fuel Consumption).

ISO notified having addressed the Fuel Consumption issue and, thanks to J's contribution, had summarised it on a CD. ISO also confirmed the ongoing FUEVA programme. A basic document, pending validation, might be used to establish the corresponding Regulation; it might imply some more research needs.

CDN welcomed all feedback about ongoing research work.

D stated recycling concerns (e.g.: Disposal of hazardous goods) and suggested to address them in parallel to the development of the GTR. It suggested investigating EU's Pre-Normative Workshop outcomes.

Outcome: The Chair concluded it was not a pre-condition to develop a GTR draft proposal but it could, nevertheless be considered as a good contribution.

3. TECHNICAL REPORT: RESPONSABILITIES (WHO? BUDGET?) AND THE PROCEDURE TO DRFT THE TECHNICAL REPORT

Document: TRANS/WP.29/883

The Chairman proposed the following:

- Scope
- Application
- Definitions
- Survey of applicable regulations/directives/standards
- State of research on the topic (indicate if further research is needed)
- Assessment of the harmonisation (necessary specifications)
- References: Procedure? Who? How?

To CDN stressing the fine-tuning needs with the SGS Chair, the Chairman reminded SGS was Chairless and moreover stressed the need to nevertheless proceed.

The HFCV Project Manager recalled that this procedure was implicitly approved. He reminded the main issues to be addressed:

Assessment: Most important point; seems also suitable for SGS.

WHO and HOW? Should be addressed and solved as soon as possible.

Format: Seems solved.

Logistics: OICA reminded its support: website and secretariat.

Meetings linked with GRPE sessions: Might avoid several trips as delegates and experts are anyways gathering but it is not compulsory.

Outcome: JRC suggested its Ispra facilities, geographically close to UNECE's, to host meetings prior to GRPE sessions. The HFCV Project Manager admitted the difficulty to decide something immediately. He suggested addressing the issue at the next meeting. He strongly stressed that the Technical Report was a priority implying setting up a drafting WG to work as needed:

Aim for a Global Technical Regulation, GTR, or National/Regional improvements of current rules? He reminded that WP.29/AC.3's input was required therefore he suggested waiting for the decisions. The evaluation of the time needed to draft the technical document must be achieved prior to convening the next HFCV-SGE WG meeting.

Outcome: Set up a small WG entrusted to draft the frame of a Technical Report. The secretariat was invited to send an e-mail inviting experts to participate to the activity. The task distribution might, for specific issues, require several sub-WGs; some experts might even have to participate to several sub-WGs.

4. FURTHER ACTIONS: TIME SCHEDULE; NEXT MEETING(S) LINKED WITH GRPE OR SCHEDULED OTHERWISE? ETC.

The SGE Chairman subsequently suggested and the group agreed to only convene the next WG meeting when the basic technical report would be available. He agreed with the HFCV Project Manager and the group acknowledged that there was no need to book a half day UNECE meeting prior to the 52nd GRPE session in June 2006.

As from the secretariat's notification, a month's delay should be foreseen prior to drafting the frame of the Technical Report.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (WEBSITE HOSTING OF HFCV)

The group agreed to temporarily proceed with OICA's website and then to shift to UNECE's, as requested by WP.29/AC.3, when the structure had been achieved.

In a nutshell the outcomes of the meeting:

1. Re-circulation of the 1st HFCV-SGE-WG meeting minutes; expected comments within two to three weeks at the latest, it should then become officially adopted.
2. Technical Report procedure.
3. Volunteers welcomed to join the drafting WG.
4. Proceed with the 2nd HFCV-SGE WG Meeting Minutes as above stated for the 1st ones.
5. HFCV-SGE WG should be updated by the Technical Report Drafting WG.