



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 September 2025

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Passive Safety

Seventy-eighth session

Geneva, 1–4 December 2025

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

UN Regulation No. 17 (Strength of seats, their anchorages and head restraints)

Proposal for supplement 1 to the 10 series of amendments, supplement 2 to the 11 series of amendments and supplement 1 to the 12 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 17 (Strength of seats, their anchorages and head restraints)

Submitted by the expert from France *

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from France and was initially submitted to the 77th session GRSP as informal document GRSP-77-24. It aims to correct and clarify the text of the regulation. When reproducing text, the modifications to the existing text of the UN Regulation are marked in “bold black” for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2025 as outlined in proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update UN Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.



I. Proposal

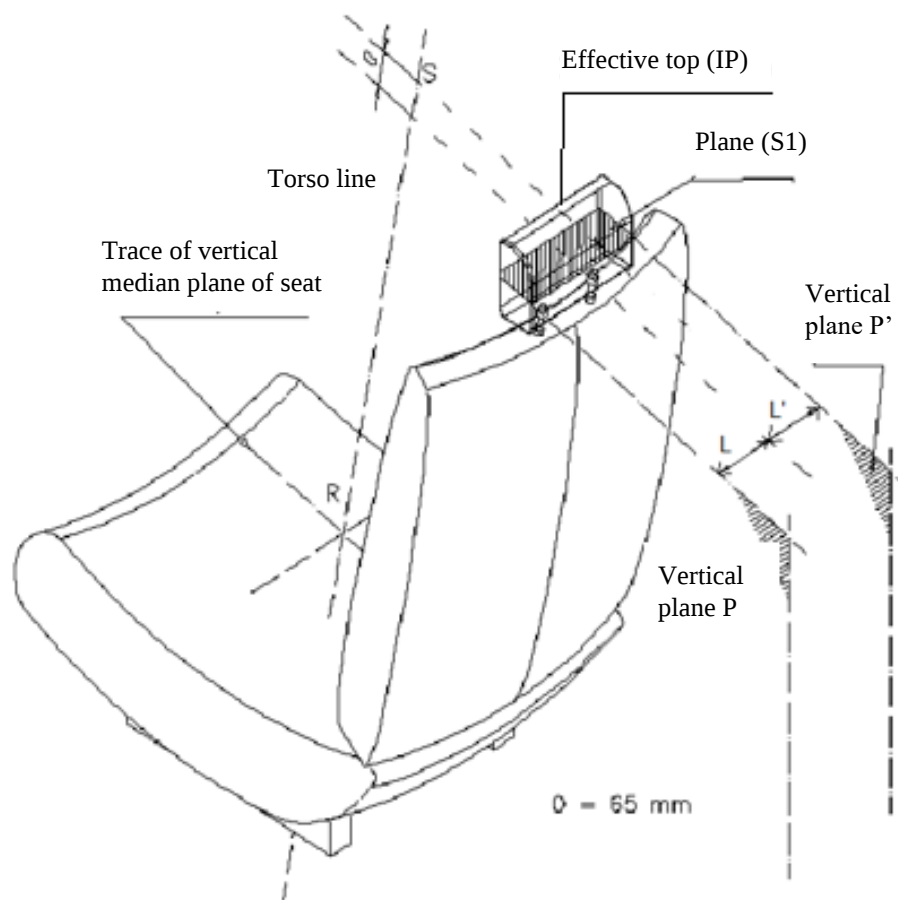
Paragraph 6.4., amend to read:

“6.4. ~~Test of the performance of the head restraint~~ **Displacement and Strength Test of head restraint**”

Paragraph 6.4.3., amend to read:

“6.4.3. Test for determining rearward displacement for the head restraint **and strength of head restraint and its anchorages is described in Annex 5 to this regulation.**”

Annex 4, figure 4-1, amend to read:



Annex 6, paragraphs 1.4.2.1. to 1.4.2.2., amend to read:

“1.4.2.1. ~~For the front face, the direction of impact from the front towards the rear shall be horizontal in a longitudinal plane.~~

For the rear face, the direction of impact from the rear towards the front shall be in a longitudinal plane at an angle of 45° from the vertical.

1.4.2.2. ~~The front and rear zones are respectively bounded by the horizontal plane tangential to the top of the head restraint as determined in paragraph 6.5. of this Regulation.~~”

Annex 8, paragraph 2.3., amend to read:

“2.3. The area of measurement is **on the front face of the head restraint**, anywhere between two vertical longitudinal planes passing at 85 mm on either side of the torso line and above the top of the seat back at a height greater than 540 mm.”

Annex 8, notes under figures 8-1 and 8-2, delete “, without exerting any load”.

Annex 11, paragraph 2. to 2.1., amend to read:

- “2. Demonstrate compliance with paragraph 5.6.6. by measuring the R-point backset of the head restraint based on the usage of apparatus that facilitates the measurement of coordinates ~~and for its dimensions is based on Figure 10-2 of Annex 10.~~
- 2.1. Adjust the seat such that its H-point coincides with the R-point **and the seat back to its design angle**, in accordance with the following requirements”

Annex 11, paragraph 2.2., delete.

Annex 11, renumber paragraphs 2.3. to 2.6. as 2.2. to 2.5.

Annex 11, paragraph 2.5. (renumbered), at the end, add “All measurements shall be taken in the median longitudinal plane of the designated seating position.”

Annex 15, paragraph 5.1., amend to read:

- “5.1. Place the head restraint into any position meeting the requirements of paragraph 5.6.12. of this Regulation;”

II. Justification

1. Before the 10 series of amendments, the test procedures for checking energy dissipation on the head restraint for the front face and for the rear face were defined in Annex 6 to UN Regulation No. 17.
2. Since the 10 series of amendments, the test procedure for checking energy dissipation on the head restraint has been split between Annex 6 and Annex 12: Annex 6 covers the test procedure for checking energy dissipation on the head restraint for the rear part and Annex 12 is covers the energy absorption test procedure for head restraint from the front. However, Annex 6 was not correctly updated and references to the front part of the head restraint remain. This proposal aims at correcting this annex.
3. In the 09 series of amendments, some test procedure were detailed in part 6 of the regulation while others were detailed in the Annexes.
4. In the 10 series of amendments, all the test procedures which were previously detailed in part 6 of the regulation were transferred to annexes and the appropriate annex number was called up in each paragraph of part 6 of the regulations.
5. When the update was made, the test procedure for “Displacement and strength” was transferred from paragraph 6.4.3. to Annex 5 of the regulation, but Annex 5 is not referred anymore on paragraph 6.4.3. This proposal aims at correcting paragraph 6.4.3. to clarify the regulation.
6. Moreover the title of paragraph 6.4. (Test of the performance of the head restraint) can be misleading, because the term “performance” is used in several other contexts (paragraph 5.6. Performance Requirements, paragraph 5.7. Static Performance Requirements, Annex 14 Dynamic Performance Test Procedure), and was modified to clarify its reference to Annex 5.
7. In Annex 4 to this regulation, the Minimum Width Measurement Test Procedure is defined. Figure 4-1 was updated between the 09 and 10 series of amendments but some information is missing on the figure, including effective top. The figure was updated accordingly.
8. Annex 8 to this regulation defines the test procedure for Gap Measurement using a Sphere. Figure 8-1 and Figure 8-2 requests to make the measure without exerting any load, whereas paragraph 2.4 requests “Applying a load of no more than 5 N against the area of measurement”, which leads to an inconsistency. This amendment aims at correcting this inconsistency by modifying figure 8-1 and 8-2.

9. Furthermore, in the 09 series of amendments to this regulation, it was requested to measure the gap from the front face of the head restraint (“§6.7.1. The distance "a" shall be determined for each gap and in relation to the front face of the head restraint, by means of a sphere having a diameter of 165 mm.”). But this wording has disappeared between the 09 and 10 series of amendments to this regulation. We propose to reintegrate this information in the test procedure for more clarity.

10. Annex 11 to this regulation defines the backset measurement procedure. Paragraph 2. of the annex requests to “Demonstrate compliance with paragraph 5.6.6. by measuring the R-point backset of the head restraint based on the usage of apparatus that facilitates the measurement of coordinates and for its dimensions is based on Figure 10-2 of Annex 10.”, which is not clear concerning the dimensions, because figure 10-2 corresponds to effective height. To clarify the test, this proposal aims at suppressing the mention “and for its dimensions is based on Figure 10-2 of Annex 10.”

11. In addition, Annex 11 requests to adjust the seat back to its design angle, after evaluating the actual torso angle (§2.1.1. Relationship between the H-point and the R-point). The proposal aims at correcting this inconsistency, by requesting to adjust the seat back to its design angle before checking the torso angle.

12. In “10° Change in Actual Torso Angle” test procedure of Annex 15 to UN Regulation No. 17, paragraph 5.6.1. is referred instead of paragraph 5.6.2. The text was corrected accordingly.
