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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Land Transport

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Subject:	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 96/53/EC laying down for certain road vehicles circulating within the Community the maximum authorised dimensions in national and international traffic and the maximum authorised weights in international traffic - Revised Presidency compromise proposal = Comments from Belgium
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Delegations will find, attached, comments from Belgium on the above-mentioned document.

Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Directive 96/53/EC laying down for certain road vehicles circulating within the Community the maximum authorised dimensions in national and international traffic and the maximum authorised weights in international traffic

Comments from the Belgian Delegation

04-11-2025

Belgium welcomes the last efforts made by the Danish Presidency to reach a general approach on the revision of the Weights and Dimensions Directive. We still hope for a swift conclusion to the negotiations in favor of greater harmonisation and decarbonation of road transport. However, we have still some concerns regarding cross-border transport of ≤ 44 tonnes and sum of the axle weights per tri-axle.

1) Article 4b

In principle, we remain in favour of removing all cross-border barriers to the movement of 44 tonnes vehicles in the interests of greater harmonisation. We believe it is important to support the sector in its transition to electric vehicles and we still hope that an alternative solution will be found.

2) Annex

3.3.2 and 3.6.2

We would have preferred to see tridem (tri-axles) for motor vehicles and towed vehicles adjusted to a definition of up to 1.8 m as for other vehicles or vehicle combinations for the sake of consistency and to avoid different interpretation among Member states for distance between axles above 1,4 m for such vehicles.

Could the Presidency share its view on this matter? More specifically the possibility to consider a tridem with distances bigger than 1,4m and smaller than 1,8m as two tandems. How do the Presidency and the Commission define tridems and tandems?