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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Antici Group (Simplification)
Subject:	Omnibus IX (Automotive): Explanatory note accompanying the Presidency compromise texts (AGS on 23 March 2026)

Delegations will find enclosed an explanatory note accompanying the Presidency compromise texts for the Antici Group (Simplification) meeting on 23.03.2026 regarding both proposals for Omnibus IX (Automotive).

Antici Group on Simplification (AGS)

23 March 2026

Omnibus IX: Automotive – 2nd Presidency compromise text

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The purpose of this explanatory note is to provide delegations with additional information, clarifications and reasoning for the amendments proposed by the Presidency.

The explanatory note follows the order of the relevant provisions.

This document is for reference only.

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulations (EC) No 561/2006, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2019/2144 and (EU) 2024/1257 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the simplification of technical requirements and testing procedures for motor vehicles and repealing Regulation No 540/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 70/157/EEC

Recitals	
1	Minor wording adjustments
3	The word 'specific was removed and replaced with 'legal'/ The phrase 'namely article 91 TFEU was added. The full name 'Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union' is written out in the text, while the abbreviation 'TFEU' appears only in parenthesis.
4	replacing 'is adopted' with 'sets out measures necessary' The phrase was changed so that 'Regulations of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)' appears before the reference to alignment
5	Wording adjustment
6	Replaced 'weight' with 'mass'. Added '**[Battery-]electric light commercial vehicles'** was added, word 'and' deleted.
7	Replaced 'companies' with enterprises and 'weight' with 'mass' The possibility to exempt light commercial vehicles from Reg. (EC) 561/2006 and Reg. 165/2014 in domestic transport is recalled
8	The method for MSs to exempt vehicles for domestic transport in recital 7 is recalled
9	The rules on driving times and rest periods for non-professional drivers of large motor caravans should be placed outside of Reg. (EC) 561/2006 and Reg. 165/2014
10	The reference 'of the EP and of the Council' was deleted. The word 'and' was deleted and replaced with 'of motor vehicles and of…' The abbreviation '(**AVAS)** was added. Deletion: some redundant wording such as 'of the UNECE. 'that' and 'three above mentioned' Correction: 'systems' Replacement: clearer wording such as 'allow' – 'require' and 'applicable' – 'relevant'.
11	The words 'as battery' were deleted.

12	Minor wording corrections and formatting changes to improve clarity.
13	Minor wording corrections and formatting changes to improve clarity.
14	Minor wording corrections and formatting changes to improve clarity.
15	Minor wording corrections and formatting changes to improve clarity.
16	'weight' was deleted and replaced with 'mass'. Clarifies that electric vehicles between **3.5 and 4.25 tonnes** should not be required to have speed limitation devices. A sentence was added to specify that speed limitation devices may be removed subject to MS requirements, where appropriate.
16 (a)	Recital added to provide reasons for the postponement of the Euro7 for HDV
17	Several wording corrections and clarifications were made. The declaration of the manufacturer is introduced.
19	Replaced 'measures' with 'acts'
20	Corrected wording and legal references
20 (a)	Added a new recital 20a on the principle of subsidiarity, proportionality and better regulation
Articles	
Art.1	The heading "Amendments to Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 was added. New wording "with a maximum permissible mass exceeding 7.5 tonnes" was introduced in point (j)
Art.1	Editorial corrections were introduced, including the addition of numbering (2) in the beginning. Inserted a new point and deleted the previously proposed point
Art.2	Added the heading 'Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/858' Wording corrections: replaced 'inserted' with 'added', clarifies vehicle abbreviations and simplified the reference to annex II.
Art.3	Added the heading 'Amendment to Regulation (EU) 2019/2144'
Art.4	Added the heading 'Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2024/1257' Article 4 paragraph 5 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1257: Clarification has been added to reflect the current situation: devices or strategies that comply with the EURO 7 Regulation and the implementing acts are not considered manipulation devices or strategies. Article 14 paragraphs 3, 4, 8 and 9 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1257: Distinction of cases where Commission shall adopt implementing acts from cases where the Commission may adopt implementing acts (so action is only taken when deemed necessary). Article 15 paragraph 1 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1257: changes concern point (c) referring to the empowerment to set emission limits for formaldehyde fuelled by fuels of concern, following the review under Article 18(6) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1257. Mention of 'Annex V' of Regulation (EU) 2024/1257 being amended has been replaced by 'Annexes I and V'.
Art.6	The heading 'Transitional provision' was added.
Art.7	The heading 'Entry into force and application' was added. The application date is now directly linked to the Regulation's **entry into force.** The deletion avoids unnecessary repetition and simplifies the provision.
Annex	

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Annex I	Minor wording corrections to the proposal introduced in the first compromise text, which reintroduced emission limit values from Euro 6 to be demonstrated through a manufacturer's Declaration of Conformity. Otherwise improvements of legal-linguistic nature
Annex II	Placed the definition of the new M1E (Small electric vehicle) in square brackets.

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Proposal for a:
DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Directive 92/6/EEC to exempt certain N2 electric vehicles from the requirement to install and use a speed limitation device

Recitals	
1	The wording describing the Directive ("on the installation and use of speed limitation devices for certain categories of motor vehicles") was deleted. The full title of the Directive is now provided in the footnote reference.
2	[battery-]electric: The wording was adjusted to align the terminology used for electric vehicles throughout the text. Specified the weight range of N2 battery-electric vehicles eligible for exemption from speed limitation device requirements. A sentence was added to specify that speed limitation devices may be removed subject to MS requirements, where appropriate.
3	replacing the reference to "technically permissible laden mass" with "mass" and to clarify that the exemption from the requirement to install speed limitation devices applies to electric vehicles of category N2 with a mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 4.25 tonnes.
Articles	
Art. 1	exemption from the speed limitation device requirement for N2 vehicles propelled by electricity with a mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 4.25 tonnes
Art. 2	Updated deadlines and references and introduced wording corrections ('three'→ 'six' months, 'forthwith' → 'immediately', 'provisions' → 'measures)
Art.4	The heading '**Entry into force'** was added.
Art.5	The heading 'Addressees' was added.