

DG Enterprise and Industry - AQSIQ
Consultation mechanism on Industrial products and TBT
Brussels – 21st November 2008

Automotive Working Group
Joint Report to the Plenary

The Automotive Working Group met for the first time, though signature of the Terms of Reference of the Working Group was postponed. China will submit comments on the draft Terms of Reference by 21/12/2008. Extensive discussions took place on recent regulatory developments in the EU and China, with regard in particular to emission and safety issues. China showed a particular interest concerning EC type-approval procedures for small series and individual approvals. EU and China committed to exchange information on a regular basis on the respective approval procedures and regulatory developments, including, whenever available, information on recall cases of defective motor vehicles.

Specific topics discussed included:

- .. EC draft legislation on the General Safety of motor vehicles: China asked information on the content and the background of the EC proposal. The EC committed to send a reply in the context of the TBT notification G/TBT/N/EEC/206.
- .. Chinese technical regulations on tyres: the EC reiterated its concerns with respect in particular to the divergences between the Chinese standards and the corresponding UNECE regulations. China will convey the EC concerns to the relevant department. The EC requested to follow up the issue further.
- .. Draft Chinese legislation on the recyclability of motor vehicles: the EC asked information about the content of the draft and the timetable for adoption and implementation. The EC invited China to notify the draft according to the TBT notification procedure should it set out compulsory requirements. China mentioned that the current standard is voluntary.

Finally, future possible cooperation actions were discussed. In particular, it was agreed to exchange information for a study on the comparison between the EU approval system and the Chinese certification system. It was also agreed to explore the possibility of organising a study tour in Europe for representatives of Chinese certification bodies and testing laboratories.