Consumers and International Standards Project





ANEC/CI Statement to the World Forum for the Harmonisation of Vehicle regulations (UNECE WP 29)

ANEC and Consumers International (CI) welcome the adoption of the second phase of Regulation 129 on non-integral enhanced child restraint systems: child seats with optional Isofix attachments in which children are secured with the car seat belt. Children taller than 100cm will be better protected from frontal impact, and especially side impact, as booster seats will need to be equipped with backrests for children of at least 135cm height.

With the i-Size concept extended to the category of non-integral child seats, these products will benefit from the more universal car interface (plug-and-play), making life easier for consumers, thus addressing an often-heard consumer complaint. Moreover the width limitation of 440mm of i-size seats will see more cars able to accommodate three child seats in the rear of a car, another problem mentioned by consumers.

We trust the corresponding modification of Regulation 16, needed to safeguard the interface definitions for the car, will be implemented in the short term, allowing it to be operational simultaneously with phase 2 of Regulation 129, around mid-2017.

We were happy to participate in the informal group on ECRS. And although we appreciate the efforts of OICA and CLEPA members to improve the car-CRS interface in order to make CRS more universal, we are disappointed that it took four long years to establish this second phase (it is exactly four years ago since phase 1 was established).

Of course, we look forward to contributing to the further development of Regulation 129, and hope that the group will be able to deliver the remaining third phase on belted integral enhanced child restraints still in 2017.