

## INTERNATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION COMMITTEE (CITA) AFRICA CONFERENCE 2023 AND CONTINENTAL WORKSHOP ON E-VEHICLES

HILTON HOTEL, ADDIS ABABA, 17th – 18th OCTOBER 2023

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### I- Background

The European Union and the African Union launched in early 2019 the Africa-Europe Alliance Transport Taskforce to exchange views and deliver recommendations to enhance transport cooperation. The Taskforce, consisting of three clusters (Connectivity and Infrastructure, Road Safety and Aviation), held various meetings from January to July 2019 to deliver tailor-made recommendations involving countries, international organisations, stakeholders, civil society, donors, and international financial institutions.

On Road Safety the report of the Taskforce brings forward thirteen concrete recommendations to reduce road crash injuries, the 8th leading cause of death globally and the lead killer of young people aged between 5 and 29 years. African road traffic death rates are the highest globally and more than four times higher than the European average. The recommendations address five main priority areas, namely road safety management and data collection, infrastructure safety, vehicle safety, safety of road users and post-crash care. Key recommendations include the creation of an African Road Safety Observatory to foster cooperation and generate a robust body of road safety data, ratification of the African Road Safety Charter and UN Road Safety Conventions, the development of national lead agencies, safety ratings of new and existing roads, applying harmonised vehicle standards and the establishment of a reliable system for vehicle inspections. Those recommendations, aligned with outcomes of other preparatory platforms to the UN Decade 2021-2030 of Road Safety, were endorsed by the African Road Safety Action plan for the Decade 2021-2030. The African Union (AU) adopted the African Road Safety Action plan for the Decade 2021-2030 in February 2022, through Decision EX.CL/1306(XL) of its Executive Council and requested the AU Commission to work closely with ECA and all the relevant partners for its implementation.

CITA is the international body composed of public and private sector organisations actively involved in mandatory road vehicle compliance. **CITA** is dedicated to improving road safety and protecting the environment and to developing best practice on mandatory vehicle compliance activities. It is an international forum for exchanging information, experience and expertise related to vehicle compliance. CITA is recognised by the European Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (The World Forum for the Harmonisation of Vehicle Regulations – WP29), the World Health Organization, the Global Road Safety Facility of the World Bank and other international stakeholders for its expertise about vehicle compliance.

#### **Over the years, CITA operates on car compliance by:**

- developing best practice recommendations and draft international standards
- co-ordinating research, studies and investigations
- organising conferences and seminars
  - inspection methods, standards and equipment
  - quality control, quality assurance and accreditation
  - training for inspectors

- information systems used to improve inspection consistency and effectiveness

An acceptable level of safety of new and used vehicles sold in Africa should be reached. To help Africa meet the UN global performance target for vehicle safety by 2030, African Governments should be encouraged to apply the UN's priority regulations to both new and used vehicles and promote consumer awareness initiatives to encourage the purchase of safer vehicles. Exporting countries should ensure – by legislation or voluntary commitments – by the end of 2020 that used cars that fail to meet the applicable UN priority vehicle regulations or have score zero-star in an NCAP test are banned from exportation. This should also apply to vehicles close to their end of economic life and vehicles with severely compromised structure following a crash. Given that enforcement and control is mainly the responsibility of the African States, proper capacity building in vehicle regulatory systems will be necessary, in the ports of entry. As there is a strong interest from organisations such as CITA and EUCARIS to work with the AU on vehicle standards, the first pilot projects could be launched soon. In addition, as information and data on both new and used vehicles is essential to ensure the fitness of the fleet, access to the UN database DETA and other information sources should be encouraged and facilitated.

The abundance of road safety tools in recent years is happening in a context of unprecedented development of electric cars with promising tomorrows. This factor should therefore be seriously taken into account when looking for solutions for safer vehicles in the road safety ecosystem.

To operationalise those recommendations, and supporting the annual African conference of CITA, the United Nation's Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), is organising a continental workshop in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.

## **II- Objectives**

The event seeks to facilitate networking among officials of sectoral organisation, regional and continental organisations, governments, private sector, civil society organisations and the academia. This will enable exchange of views and experiences in vehicle compliance, vehicle inspection, road safety, environmental protection, decarbonisation, and enforcement of laws and standards, among others.

The main objective of the meeting is to improve vehicle standards and inspection in Africa.

Specifically, the meeting aims to:

- 1- Provide a platform to organise the annual conference of CITA and for partners to engage with the EU-AU Task force recommendations on vehicle inspection and standards.
- 2- Provide a platform for an African continental debate on the inspection of e-vehicles.

The theme of the meeting is: “***Improving vehicles to improve life.***”

## **III- Expected outcomes**

The following outcomes are targeted:

- Engagement of CITA, and other partners with the EU-AU Task force recommendations on vehicle inspection and standards, leading to a detailed roadmap and commitments.
- Platform for African continental debate on the transition to e-vehicles followed / Recommendations.

## **IV- Event arrangements and details**

- Place: Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Time: from 17th – 18th October 2023
- Expected participants: 100 participants

- Languages: English and French

## V- Programme outline

### 1- Day 1:

#### *CITA annual conference (Closed meeting for CITA members)*

- Part 1: Institutional opening: Institutional partners (s) and CITA
- Part 2: The experiences in Africa
- Part 3: Round table: the role of the regulatory framework to improve the vehicle fleet
- Part 4: International experiences
- Part 5: Conclusions and wrap up
- Side event (day 1)

### 2- Day 2: *WIDER -Hybrid- 9am-11am*

#### *Plenary:*

#### *Advancing continental agenda on vehicle compliance: challenges in E- vehicles era*

- E-vehicle markets for Africa: challenges and opportunities (UNECA and UNEP)
- UN norms and E-vehicles: aligning the requirements (UNECE)
- E-vehicles and road safety risks (CITA)
- E-vehicles and inspection requirements: best practices and challenges in Africa (CITA)

## VI- Previous editions of CITA conferences

- 2022: Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020, 2021 and 2022: virtual editions
- 2019: Marrakesh, Morocco, with the institutional sponsoring of the Moroccan Government
- 2018 Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- 2017: Kampala, Uganda
- 2016: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

## VII- Contact

For further information, please contact:

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