



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Industrial Transformation and Advanced Value Chains
Automotive and Mobility Industries

Meeting record

Date of meeting	12.07.2016
Place of meeting (<i>DG GROW premises, other DG premises, stakeholder premises..</i>)	DG GROW premises
Stakeholder(s)	VDA (German Association of the Automotive Industry)
Representative(s) of stakeholder(s)	Matthias Wiessmann, President of VDA; [REDACTED], Brussels Office of VDA; [REDACTED], VDA
DG GROW representatives	Antti Peltomaki; [REDACTED]
Representatives of other DGs	-

Summary of meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to VDA make a tour d'horizon regarding issues of immediate importance to VDA/automotive industry in general.

Topics discussed included WLTP, RDE, evaporative emissions, decarbonisation.

M. Wiessmann informed about the condition of the industry: this year has seen the best growth since years. The nominal figures of diesel sales are high, with the highest rate in Germany. Equally, suppliers perform very well. In general, situation is good in Europe, US, China while Russia and Brazil remain problematic. According to him currently there are about 30 different types of power trains on the market. Further development of alternative power trains is a long term investment and is financed to a large extent from the sales of diesel and petrol engines. Regarding WLTP, VDA raised the issue of lack of synchronisation of dates of entry into with force with RDE 2nd Regulation. M. Wiessmann stressed high burden for the industry resulting from different dates of approval of vehicles against RDE and WLTP legislation.

He inquired about the intentions of the Commission in this respect. AP explained that COMM is aware of the concerns of the industry and, as agreed during the TCMC meeting on 14 June, it will examine possibilities of finding coherence between the two regulations. This will be discussed in one of the meetings with MS scheduled for September.

On RDE 3rd Regulation, VDA signalled a necessity of appropriate approach to cold start testing. COMM explained that work is on-going and that all stakeholders/MS interested are invited to participate in the working group which defines the scope of the upcoming Regulation. Options remain open.

VDA also called for alignment of application dates of WLTP and evaporative emissions Regulation.

Regarding decarbonisation file, VDA asked for DG GROW approach, signalling that insistence on ZEV will be problematic for the industry and that COMM should

promote more differentiated approach, including appropriate emphasis being given to 2nd generation of biofuels and synthetic fuels.

COMM explained position of the Commissioner – technology neutrality but insistence on more efforts to be made with regard to zero emissions (electric or fuel cells).

In the end VDA explained that VW is making big efforts to remedy the situation caused by the emissions scandal, however any call for generalised compensation of the affected consumers would risk putting the company in very serious financial difficulties.