



VERBAL STATEMENT FOR CARS 21 HIGH LEVEL GROUP MEETING under the heading of “Growth and Sustainable Development”

On behalf of the Members of AECC, the Association for Emissions Control by Catalyst, I should like to thank the Commission and the other members of the High Level Group for the constructive discussions that have led to an appropriate and comprehensive final CARS 21 report.

The report very clearly identifies the critical issues and challenges that face the industry. But at the same time it recognises that the European automotive industry must maintain its lead in the technology of clean, fuel-efficient and safe vehicles as a constituent of sustainable development. The report acknowledges the crucial element of technological neutrality in the regulatory approach that is needed to keep the EU industry at the leading edge of technologies that will be needed for many years to come.

AECC's Member Companies form a part of the expert supplier chain that enables OEMs to produce complex but effective and reliable emissions control systems. Those systems then contribute to the sustainability of the whole automotive industry by providing clean and fuel efficient vehicles of all types to the global market.

A strong and active European supplier and manufacturing chain is essential to meet the increasing global demand for vehicles with low pollutant and CO₂ emissions and for the foreseeable future vehicles equipped with Internal Combustion Engines (ICEs) will be a crucial element in this. This is an area where the European industry has already demonstrated its expertise and continues to develop new and improved technologies.

As part of the on-going developments, the Commission's work on the new world-harmonised light-duty test procedure -WLTP- for both CO₂ and regulated pollutants will assist in maintaining the growth of the European industry in world markets. The complementary work on the 'real driving emissions' test procedures will enhance the environmental credentials of European products and so again will help maintain the competitiveness and sustainability of the European auto industry.



It is clear that clean and energy efficient IC-engined vehicles will remain a critical part of the global fleet for many years to come. To ensure their continued viability for the European industry it is essential that the varying technologies available for motive power are treated in a technologically neutral manner in future legislation, incentives and labelling.

This will safeguard the continued deployment of effective Research and Development effort that will be needed to maintain leading-edge technology in a global market.

We believe that the recommendations in the CARS 21 report that identify these points will help in maintaining the growth and sustainability of the industry.

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