

Matthias Wissmann President OICA 4 Rue de Berri Paris 8th Arr. France

19 March 2018

Dear Mr. Wissmann,

Re: United Nations (UN) Global Technical Regulation Number 9 on Pedestrian Protection

As you may be aware, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, last week disparaged the Japanese Government's application of pedestrian protection tests, implying that this requirement was an example of an unfair trade practice¹. Although dismissed as a joke by the White House Press Secretary, Sarah Sanders, she confirmed that President Trump was illustrating "the creative ways some countries are able to keep American goods out of their markets".

Global NCAP is concerned that the Head of State of a leading automobile manufacturing nation seems to be entirely unaware of the benefits of global harmonization of safety standards that are available to the United States (US) through the 1998 Agreement of the United Nations World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29). A major benefit of Global Technical Regulations (GTRs) is that, far from being an unfair trade practice, they provide a predictable regulatory framework for the automotive industry and consumers.

In the absence of the appointment of an Administrator for the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, it is possible that President Trump has been incorrectly briefed on pedestrian protection. Given the obvious confusion about this issue, Global NCAP has sent the enclosed letter to President Trump pointing out that if the US adopted GTR Number 9, it would help keep American pedestrians safer and increase the export potential of US manufacturers.

Given the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers' (OICA) strong commitment to global harmonization, I trust that you share our concern that safety issues should not be used to exacerbate current tensions about alleged 'unfair' trade practices. Global NCAP kindly requests, therefore, that OICA confirms that it fully endorses UN Global Technical Regulation Number 9 on

 $^{^{1}\,}http://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-bowling-ball-test-japanese-cars-fundraising-speech-nobody-seems-846296$

Pedestrian Protection as a valuable regulatory instrument for countries wishing to reduce pedestrian fatalities.

Looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

David Ward Secretary General

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