
RESOLUTION No. 25 CONCERNING VEHICLE NOISE LEVELS

[CM(72)8 Final]

The Council of Ministers of Transport, meeting in London on 14th June 1972,

RECALLING the concern they have shown during the past ten years to promote international agreement on measures to reduce noise caused by vehicles;

HAVING REGARD to the views expressed at their 34th Session, in December 1971, both about the importance in general of considering the impact that transport matters may have on the quality of life and about the possible need for action at policy level concerning vehicle noise in particular;

CONSIDERING:

1. that noise from vehicles constitutes a major environmental nuisance;
2. that the imposition of strict limits on the maximum noise level of new vehicles is one of the principal means of abating this nuisance;
3. that technical developments, fostered by suitable government policies, can enable maximum permitted noise levels to be progressively lowered;
4. that regulatory measures must be accompanied by improved control and enforcement action if progress is to be realized in practice.

COMMENDS the establishment of maximum permitted noise levels for new vehicles which will ensure the greatest possible abatement of the nuisance of traffic noise;

URGES the Governments of Member States to adopt and to pursue vigorously a policy of:

- a) replacing existing standards by stricter standards, reviewing and further amending such standards periodically, to the extent that lower maximum levels are technically achievable and consistent with international obligations;
- b) advocating the adoption in international standard-setting organisations of stricter standards found to be technically achievable;
- c) carrying out or promoting research into means of achieving further reductions in vehicle noise and into methods of measuring noise levels of road vehicles for enforcement purposes during road checks or in testing stations;
- d) taking all practicable steps to strengthen the enforcement of the standards laid down.

INSTRUCTS the Committee of Deputies to keep the matter under review and to report to the Council in due course.