

Motor Industry News Leyland Australia

November, 1972



THE "BIG SEVEN" MEET ON WORLD CAR PROBLEMS:

Europe's top motor chiefs have come together to mount the biggest attack yet upon the problems of living with the motor car.

The chairman and managing director of British Leyland Motor Corporation, Lord Stokes, said in Sydney to-day he has joined forces with Giovanni Agnelli of Fiat; Pierre Dreyfus of Renault; Rolf Leiding of Volkswagen; Joachim Zahn of Daimler-Benz; Francois Rollier of Citroen and Francois Gautier of Peugeot to form the world's first action committee to cope with the problems of the automobile and the environment - the Committee of Common Market Constructors.

The C.C.M.C. is the result of a series of meetings over the last eighteen months between the research engineers of the companies concerned and will have the following objectives:-

1. To make the maximum possible contribution to the improvement of vehicle safety and the reduction of environmental problems.
2. To ensure that Governmental regulations in these fields are identical as far as possible throughout the common market and in as wide a field beyond the common market boundaries as is practicable.

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CARS	AUSTIN	BUSES	COACHES	FOUR WHEEL	TRACTORS	ROAD ROLLERS
ROVER	MORRIS	LEYLAND	AB DENNING	DRIVE	LEYLAND	GRADERS
JAGUAR	MG	TRUCKS	PRESSED METAL	LANDROVER		AVELING-BARFORD
DAIMLER	TRIUMPH	LEYLAND		RANGEROVER		

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Lord Stokes said the chief executives have agreed to work together towards the association's objectives and to intensify the efforts already being made by their companies in these fields. It is the opinion of all concerned that this new co-operation will bring great improvements to the efficiency of this work.

The main work of the committee will be:-

- (a) The mutual exchange of information gained by the participating companies as the result of their research into vehicle safety and environmental problems.
- (b) An intensification of effort in these fields to gain positive results as quickly as possible.
- (c) To make available to the E.E.C. authorities and the Governments of the members of the European economic community the results of their co-operation in order that common regulations may be established as rapidly as possible.

The members of the committee will impress upon their respective Governments the importance of ensuring that any regulations they may make shall be technically viable and cost-effective both for the manufacturers and their customers.

"It is not intended that the formation of the committee shall in any way affect the existing relationships of the member companies with any administrative or professional organisations public, semi-public

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or private organisations, national or international, concerned with vehicle safety and environmental questions".

"Membership of the committee is not restricted to the founder member and other European car manufacturers will be welcome. The Committee of Common Market Constructors will be governed by a board of directors consisting of the chief executives of the founding companies under the chairmanship of Sign. Agnelli, chairman of Fiat", Lord Stokes stated.

This board will be assisted by a committee of experts consisting of the research directors of the member companies with a permanent secretary. Other specialised committees will be formed as and when necessary.

Lord Stokes, accompanied by Mr. J.N.R. Barber, managing director of British Leyland International, is paying a routine visit to Leyland Australia, en route to a board meeting in New Zealand.