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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE  
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the  
Transport of Dangerous Goods  
(Fifteenth session,  
Geneva, 29 June-10 July 1998,  
agenda item 5)

MISCELLANEOUS DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS  
ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Part 7

Transmitted by the Expert from Belgium

**Background**

1. During its fourteenth session, the Sub-Committee adopted the proposal from the United Kingdom in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1997/61. Two new paragraphs are added in Chapter 7.1 so that damages to packages should no longer be possible when they are (mis)handled.
2. The new paragraph 7.1.1.4 states that the person or company who decided on the use of a certain package is responsible for damages to these packages due to any later (mis)handling. This assumes that, from the beginning, the complete journey of all packages up to their final destination is known in full detail. Of course this is not true. The shipment can be sold, broken up and resold to unknown parties and be transferred several times from one transport mode to another (most unfortunately if one of your packages finally goes to a mining site in the Matto Grosso that can only be reached by a small airplane).
3. Because of the reasons above, this person or company cannot be held responsible for damages due to later (mis)handling of his packages. The only person or company who can be held responsible for this is the one who undertakes the (mis)handling.

**Proposal**

The new paragraph 7.1.1.4 should read as follows:

"During loading and unloading all necessary measures shall be taken to protect packages with dangerous goods from being damaged".

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