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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

<u>Sub-Committee of Experts on the</u> <u>Transport of Dangerous Goods</u> (Seventeenth session, Geneva, 6-17 December 1999, agenda item 5 (e))

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

Salvage packagings

Transmitted by the Hazardous Materials Advisory Council (HMAC)

1. Salvage packagings are used to contain damaged, defective or leaking dangerous goods packages, or dangerous goods that have spilled or leaked. Their use during these situations minimizes the risk to transport workers and the public while the package is further transported for purposes of recovery or disposal. UN provisions for the design and performance testing of salvage packaging (Packing group II for solids where the test contents is water, and a requirement for absorbent material to eliminate free liquid when present) ensure a high level of structural integrity and little likelihood of leakage.

2. In addition to situations involving damaged, defective or leaking packages of dangerous goods, occasionally an undamaged primary container is found to be tested to a performance level which is less than that required for the specific substance it contains (e.g. a drum tested to Packing group II standards containing a Packing group I substance). In other instances, the primary container is found to be a non-performance tested packaging containing a regulated substance. However, in these situations it may not be safe or practical to transfer the material to the correct package to continue on to the consignee. HMAC believes the use of salvage packaging to contain "non-conforming" packages will minimize the risk to those handling the package during its transport back to the shipper or to an appropriate disposal location.

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Proposal

3. Revise the definition of *Salvage Packagings* in paragraph 1.2.1 **Definitions** to read as follows:

"*Salvage Packagings* are special packagings conforming to the applicable provisions of these Regulations into which damaged, defective, leaking or <u>non-conforming</u> dangerous goods packages, or dangerous goods that have spilled or leaked, are placed for purposes of transport for recovery or disposal."

4. Revise paragraph 4.1.1.15 *Use of Salvage Packagings* to read as follows:

"4.1.1.15.1 Damaged, defective, leaking or <u>non-conforming</u> packages, or dangerous goods that have spilled or leaked may be transported in salvage packagings mentioned in 6.1.5.1.11. This does not prevent the use of a bigger size packaging of appropriate type and performance level under the conditions of 4.1.1.15.2."
