



Secretariat

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**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF
DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY
HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS
Geneva, 11-13 December 2002**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST SESSION

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday 11 December 2002**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council
4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2001-2002
5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2001-2002

IMPORTANT

In view of the security measures concerning access to the Palais des Nations, delegations are requested to inform the secretariat (UNECE Transport Division) of their exact composition. Access to the Palais des Nations will be restricted to the bearers of an identity card which will be issued by the Security and Safety Section, Villa Les Feuillantines, 13 Avenue de la Paix (please see the plan on the last page).

Each participant named on the list of members of the delegation is requested to complete in advance the enrolment form on the second-last page and forward it by fax (41 22 917 00 39) or by e-mail (chantal.baudet@unece.org) at the latest one week before the session opens.

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2003-2004
 - (a) Programme of work and related proposals
 - (b) Calendar of meetings
7. Draft resolution 2003/... of the Economic and Social Council
8. Any other business
9. Adoption of the report.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

General

Status and membership

The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council, and was previously known as the "Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods". It was reconfigured by the Economic and Social Council's resolution 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, with two sub-committees, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) and the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee) (refer also to document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/7). This is the first session of the reconfigured Committee.

The membership of the Committee was originally limited to 31 (Economic and Social Council's decision 2001/201B of 3 May 2001).

The detailed original membership of the Committee and its two sub-committees is given in ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/8. By Economic and Social Council's decision 2002/201C, China, which was already a member of the Committee, became member of the GHS Sub-Committee, Denmark became member of the Committee and the GHS Sub-Committee, and Portugal became member of the Committee and of its two sub-committees.

As a consequence, the membership of the Committee is now 33, as follows: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Documentation

The documentation relating to the Committee continues to be issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/...

The documentation relating to the TDG Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/...

The documentation relating to the GHS Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/...

Documents are issued in English and French only, which are the working languages of the secretariat.

All documents are available on the web site of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), whose secretariat provides the secretariat services for the Committee:
<http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm>.

Interpretation

Interpretation during the session will be provided in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Rules of procedures

In accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, Chapters VI and VIII to XII of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council apply to the proceedings of the Committee and of its sub-committees (refer also to documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/1, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/6).

Mandate

In accordance with resolution 1999/65, the mandate of the Committee is to deal with strategic issues rather than technical issues. It is not envisaged that it would review, change or revisit technical recommendations of the Sub-Committees.

Its main functions are:

- (a) To approve the work programmes of the Sub-Committees in the light of available resources;
- (b) To coordinate strategic and policy directions in areas of shared interests and overlap;
- (c) To give formal endorsement to the recommendations of the Sub-Committees and provide the mechanism for channelling them to the Economic and Social Council;
- (d) Facilitate and coordinate the smooth running of the Sub-Committees.

Timetable

The length of the session has been limited to two and a half days (Five three-hour meetings). It will be preceded by the twenty-second session of the TDG Sub-Committee (2-6 December 2002) (Agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/43) and the fourth session of the GHS Sub-Committee (9-11 December 2002) (Agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/7).

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the established practice, the first item on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Election of officers

In accordance with the established practice, the Committee shall elect one President and one or several Vice-Presidents from among the representatives of its members.

3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

The resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the work of the Committee during the biennium 2001-2002 are as follows:

Decisions: 2001/201B of 3 May 2001
2002/201C of 26 July 2002

Resolutions: 2001/34 of 26 July 2001
2001/44 of 20 December 2001

They are reproduced in document ST/SG/AC.10/2002/1.

The Committee will be informed orally of the action taken by the secretariat as regards operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 2001/34.

Members of the Committee and representatives of observer countries or of international organizations concerned may also wish to provide information on action taken by them as regards operative paragraph 3 of resolution 2001/44.

The Committee may wish to note that, as requested in operative paragraph 4 of resolution 2001/44, the Secretary-General will submit a report to the Council in 2003 on the implementation of resolutions 2001/34 and 2001/44.

4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2001-2002

The reports of the TDG Sub-Committee on its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions are contained in documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/38 and Adds. 1-2; ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/40 and Adds. 1-2; ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/42 and Adds 1-3. The list of draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations and Manual of Tests and Criteria adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/60, except for the additional provisions concerning the transport of gases which may be found in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/42/Add.1.

These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's twenty-second session (2-6 December 2002) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its twenty-second session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or in the draft form prepared by the secretariat, as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/CRP.4 and addenda for changes to the consolidated list of draft amendments. The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2001-2002

The reports of the GHS Sub-Committee on its first, second and third sessions have been issued as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/4 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/6. The Sub-Committee should adopt, at its fourth session (9-11 December 2002) the final text of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals on the basis of a consolidated text prepared by an editorial group (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/16 and Adds. 1-11).

The report of the Sub-Committee on its fourth session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or under the form of the draft prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/CRP.4 and addenda for any change to the GHS consolidated text). The Committee may wish to endorse the GHS as adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendation made by it.

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2003-2004

(a) Programme of work and related proposals

The Committee should consider the proposals made by the TDG and the GHS Sub-Committees at their December 2002 sessions for their respective programme of work, and approve them in the light of resources available for 2003-2004.

(b) Calendar of meetings

The total number of meeting days allocated to the Committee and its Sub-Committee by the Economic and Social Council for a biennium is 38 days (i.e. 76 meetings of three-hour duration). On the basis of the experience for the biennium 2001-2002, the following date have been provisionally scheduled by the secretariat for 2003-2004:

30 June – 4 July 2003: TDG Sub-Committee, 23rd session
7-9 July 2003: GHS Sub-Committee, 5th session

1-10 (a.m.) December 2003: TDG Sub-Committee, 24th session
10 (p.m.)-12 December 2003: GHS Sub-Committee, 6th session

5-14 (a.m.) July 2004: TDG Sub-Committee, 25th session
14 (p.m.)-16 July 2004: GHS Sub-Committee, 7th session

29 November – 3 December 2004: TDG Sub-Committee, 26th session
6-8 (a.m.) December 2004: GHS Sub-Committee, 8th session
8 (p.m.)-10 December 2004: Committee, 2th session.

The Committee may wish to consider the allocation of meetings for each Sub-Committee depending on their respective programme of work.

7. Draft resolution 2003/... of the Economic and Social Council

The Committee may wish to note that both Sub-Committees will have prepared their own contribution to the draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2003 substantive session. The Committee should combine the two parts and adopt the draft resolution to be submitted to the Council.

8. Any other business

At the time of writing, there is no issue under this agenda item.

9. Adoption of the report

The Committee should adopt the report on its first session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.



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**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the globally
harmonized system of classification and labelling of chemicals (11-13 December 2002)**

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First name(s)

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