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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**

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods

Twenty-fifth session, 5-14 July 2004
Item 9 of the provisional agenda

PROCEDURE FOR INCIDENT REPORTING

Transmitted by the Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC)

Discussion

1. DGAC presented an information paper at the last session (UN/SCETDG/24/INF.30) with a proposal to add provisions to the Model Regulations that would require a carrier to submit a report to the competent authority if an accident or incident takes place during transport that results in the release of dangerous goods. We believe the reporting and collection of such data will be useful for determining whether a packaging is deficient or whether there is a sound basis for revision of a performance standard. Experts were generally supportive of the concept although a number of comments were made during the session and in communications with DGAC afterwards.

2. The proposed text from the December 2003 paper has been revised in an effort to incorporate as many comments as possible. The revised proposal is shown below. Some Experts suggested DGAC include more detail within the proposed provisions. We believe, however, this would lead to lengthy and unproductive discussions on such issues as quantities released, cost of damages, number and severity of injuries, etc. so we have kept the draft provisions general in nature. This will allow flexibility for States to develop reporting requirements within a framework compatible with the Model Regulations.

Proposal

3. Add a new paragraph to Chapter 7.1 (Provisions Concerning Transport Operations by All Modes of Transport):

"7.1.8 Reporting of accidents or incidents involving dangerous goods in transport

7.1.8.1 An operator carrier shall report ~~dangerous goods accidents and incidents~~ an accident or incident involving the release of dangerous goods to the appropriate competent authorities of the State in which the accident or incident occurred, in accordance with the reporting requirements of the appropriate authorities that State.

~~7.1.8.2 An accident or incident shall be reported when a significant quantity of dangerous goods is unintentionally released or if significant personal injury, property damage, or environmental damage has occurred as a result of the release.~~

7.1.8.3~~2~~ Information reported shall include the description of the goods (e.g. proper shipping name (including technical name, if any), UN number, class/division, packing group), description of the accident/incident, date and location, estimated loss of dangerous goods, ~~packaging containment~~ information (e.g. packaging type, identification markings, capacity and quantity) and cause and type of any packaging failure that resulted in a release of dangerous goods.

7.1.8.4~~3~~ The competent authority may specify certain types of dangerous goods (e.g. Batteries, wet, filled with acid) or quantities of dangerous goods which are excepted from these requirements for reporting accidents or incidents involving dangerous goods.

~~7.1.8.5 The State receiving the report shall forward a copy to the secretariat of the Transport Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for distribution to the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods."~~

7.1.8.4 Reports or summaries of reports that the State deems relevant to the work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (e.g. packaging failures, major releases) should be submitted to the Sub-Committee for its consideration and possible action."
