



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2004/26
21 June 2004

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Geneva, 13-17 September 2004,
agenda item 5)

NEW PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO RID/ADR/ADN

Chapter 5.3: Placarding

Transmitted by the Government of Denmark

SUMMARY

Executive summary: The exemptions mentioned in 5.3.1.1.2 and 5.3.1.1.5.1 of the UN Model Regulations concerning placarding of transport units are not properly reflected in RID/ADR/ADN. In ADR/ADN, the exemption concerning placarding of transport units carrying goods of 1.4S (Class 1) is missing, whereas the exemptions concerning excepted packages (Class 7) are covered. In RID, the exemption concerning the placarding of transport units carrying goods of 1.4S (Class 1) is also missing, but furthermore the exemptions concerning excepted packages (Class 7) are only partially covered.

Action to be taken: The Joint Meeting should consider harmonization and amend Chapter 5.3 accordingly.

Related documents: TRANS/WP.15/2004/5 (WP.15 meeting, May 2004).

* / Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2004/26.

Introduction

According to 5.3.1.1.2 (a) and 5.3.1.1.5.1 of the UN Model Regulations (13. ed.) placards are not required on transport units carrying any quantity of explosives of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S, or excepted packages of radioactive material (Class 7).

In ADR/ADN only the latter exemption seems to be covered at present (see 5.3.1.1.3 and 5.3.1.5.2). In RID only the 7D placard has been exempted from in case of excepted packages (see 5.3.1.1.3).

It should be noted that a transport unit need not be placarded if the carriage takes place in accordance with 1.1.3.6 of ADR. That paragraph, however, only partially solves the problem, since in some cases goods of 1.4S are carried as part of mixed loads where 1.1.3.6 does no longer apply.

The objective of the proposals below is to harmonize RID/ADR/ADN with the UN Model Regulations.

The issue has already been discussed by the WP.15 in May, but it was considered that there were some multimodal aspects since Chapter 5.3 of the UN Model Regulations also addresses freight containers.

Proposal

RID/ADR/ADN:

Add a new 5.3.1.1.3 as follows:

“5.3.1.1.3 Placards are not required on [RID: wagons or large containers/ ADR: vehicles or containers/ ADN: vehicles, wagons or containers] carrying any quantity of explosives of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S.”

Renumber existing 5.3.1.1.3 to 5.3.1.1.5 as 5.3.1.1.4 to 5.3.1.1.6.

Amend the first sentence of 5.3.1.2 to read:

“The placards shall be affixed to both sides and at each end of the container, MEGC, tank-container or portable tank, except that placards are not required in case of explosives of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S, or excepted packages of radioactive material (Class 7).”

ADR/ADN only:

Amend the text in 5.3.1.5.1 to read:

“For vehicles carrying packages containing substances or articles of Class 1 (other than of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S), placards shall be affixed to both sides and at the rear of the vehicle.”

RID only:

Amend the text of 5.3.1.5 to read:

“The placards shall be affixed to both sides, except that placards are not required in case of explosives of Division 1.4, Compatibility Group S, or excepted packages of radioactive material (Class 7).”

Justification

- Safety: It is generally recognized that goods of 1.4S and excepted packages of Class 7 constitute a very low level of danger. The safety implications should therefore be minimal.
- Feasibility: The proposal has no negative effect on costs.
- Enforceability: No problems foreseen.
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