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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
(Bern, 7-11 March 2005)

INTERPRETATION OF RID/ADR/ADN

Transitional measure of 1.6.1.2

Transmitted by the Government of Belgium*

Summary: The transitional measure of 1.6.1.2 concerning the use of old labels has been interpreted totally differently by the RID Committee of Experts and by the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15). We should like the Joint Meeting to decide on a common interpretation.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2005/1.

Introduction

The transitional measure of 1.6.1.2 was amended in RID/ADR 2005, when the date of 31 December 1998 was replaced by 31 December 2004.

“1.6.1.2 The danger labels which until 31 December 2004 conformed to the models prescribed up to that date may be used until stocks are exhausted.”

In paragraph 62 of the report of the fortieth session of the RID Committee of Experts (A81-03/501.2004), the interpretation given is:

“(This implied that) all the old danger labels could be used until supplies ran out, irrespective of the expiry date.”

In paragraph 19 of the report of WP.15 of January 2004 (TRANS/WP.15/176), the interpretation given is:

“The Working Party adopted the amendment proposed by the RID Committee of Experts in 1.6.1.2 pointing out that it was tantamount to introducing a transitional measure for labels of Class 7 bearing a text in a language other than English, but was also tantamount to no longer authorizing danger labels which did not carry a figure in the lower corner.”

Proposal

We should like the Joint Meeting to decide on a common interpretation.

Justification

It is clear that this difference of interpretation creates an unacceptable situation for users.

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