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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the  
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 11-21 September 2007  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**INTERPRETATION OF RID/ADR/ADN <sup>\*/</sup>**

**Clarification of the Definition of "Liquid"**

**Transmitted by the Government of the United States of America**

**Introduction**

1. Clarification is sought with respect to the following definition in Chapter 1.2.1 of the ADR:

“*Liquid*” means a substance which at 50 °C has a vapour pressure of not more than 300 kPa (3 bar), which is not completely gaseous at 20 °C and 101.3 kPa, and which

- (a) has a melting point or initial melting point of 20 °C or less at a pressure of 101.3 kPa; or
- (b) is liquid according to the ASTM D 4359-90 test method; or

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<sup>\*/</sup> / Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2007/61.

(c) is not pasty according to the criteria applicable to the test for determining fluidity (penetrometer test) described in 2.3.4;”

2. Recently a question has been raised as to what classification should be given to a material which is a liquid under (b) but is pasty according to the penetrometer test in (c).

3. The definition appears to require that if a material meets the criteria of (a), (b), or (c), the material must be classed as a liquid. Clarification is sought from the Joint Meeting in order to provide correct guidance.

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