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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

Thirty-fifth session Geneva, 22-26 June 2009 Item 3 of the provisional agenda

LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

Proper shipping name of UN numbers 3276, 3278, 3282, 3439, 3464 and 3467

<u>Transmitted by the expert from Germany and the Intergovernmental Organization for</u> <u>International Carriage by Rail (OTIF)</u>¹

1 Representatives of the chemical industry have pointed out to the expert from Germany and the OTIF secretariat that the adjective sequence in the names of UN numbers 3276, 3278, 3238, 3439, 3464 and 3467 differs from the sequence in the names of the other UN numbers.

2 While for all other UN numbers the physical state (solid or liquid) appears before the hazard characteristics (e.g. UN 2735 AMINES, LIQUID, CORROSIVE, N.O.S), in the six mentioned entries the hazard characteristic appears before the physical state.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2009-2010 approved by the Committee at its fourth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68 para. 118 and ST/SG/AC.10/36, para. 14)

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In the following table the relevant UN Numbers are listed with their names:

UN No.	
3276	NITRILES, TOXIC, LIQUID, N.O.S.
3278	ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUND, TOXIC, LIQUID, N.O.S.
3282	ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUND, TOXIC, LIQUID, N.O.S.
3439	NITRILES, TOXIC, SOLID, N.O.S.
3464	ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUND, TOXIC, SOLID, N.O.S.
3467	ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUND, TOXIC, SOLID, N.O.S.

3 Why this deviation from the usual sequence in the names of these six UN numbers was made could not be determined. However, since this sequence appears in all language versions, it is not a translation issue. This cannot be changed editorially without referring to the Sub-Committee.

4 The sequence in the names of UN numbers should be uniform. A uniform sequence in the names of UN number facilitates the handling of dangerous goods and avoids misunderstandings especially in the case of incidents and accidents. Moreover, it facilitates the programming for the preparation of the transport documents.

Proposal

5. The expert from Germany and the OTIF secretariat therefore propose to adapt the sequence in the names of UN numbers 3276, 3278, 3282, 3439, 3464 and 3467 to the otherwise usual sequence. Accordingly, the physical state (solid or liquid) should appear before the hazard characteristics.

Thus, the entries in the dangerous goods list should be amended to read as follows:

UN No.	
3276	NITRILES, LIQUID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
3278	ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUND, LIQUID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
3282	ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUND, LIQUID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
3439	NITRILES, SOLID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
3464	ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUND, SOLID, TOXIC, N.O.S.
3467	ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUND, SOLID, TOXIC, N.O.S.

6. If the Sub-Committee accepts the proposal, this amendment could already be incorporated into the individual transport mode regulations before the customary harmonisation with the UN Model Regulations in 2013.