



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/7
4 January 2002

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

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, 18-22 March 2002)

INCLUSION OF STANDARDS IN RID AND ADR

Transmitted by the Government of Switzerland*

The secretariat has received from the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) the proposal reproduced below.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2002/7.

The proposal by Switzerland TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2001/27 was adopted in principle at the Joint Meeting of 28 May to 1 June 2001 (see TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/84) and Switzerland was asked to give it concrete form. Since the secretariats are not able to provide assistance to the working group, this will be an informal working group.

The Joint Meeting requested Switzerland to give details of its proposal to establish a working group and to specify how this group should be formed and how it should perform its mission, for example:

- Specification of the standards to which reference should be made in RID/ADR;
- Consideration of these standards on behalf of the Joint Meeting so as to facilitate the decision.

Switzerland requests the Joint Meeting to consider the following proposal and to put it into practice:

- The Joint Meeting will request participants to nominate their experts and to assign them to the working group;
- The delegate of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) will be invited to collaborate with the working group. Meetings of the working group on standards will be held at the same time as the Joint Meeting;
- The Joint Meeting will designate a chairman for the working group. The chairman will report to the plenary on the evaluation and on the working group's proposal; the working group's mandate will be to consider the evaluation of the standards selected from the standpoint of conformity with existing regulations and the need to refer to them;
- The Joint Meeting will decide whether it will take up the working group's proposal;
- As regards the proposals, the member States of COTIF/Contracting Parties to ADR and the organizations and NGOs recognized by the Joint Meeting will, by means of a proposal or an informal document, propose a specific standard (ISO, CEN, etc.) for inclusion and reference in the Regulations;
- All applicants must ensure that the standard(s) is/are made available to the secretariats and the members of the working group in the form of a working document, at least in English, in a sufficient number of copies;
- The working group will meet at the same time as the Joint Meeting. Working group sessions will begin on the first Monday of the meeting and will conclude not later than the Wednesday;

- The Joint Meeting will include on its agenda for the Wednesday afternoon an item under which the chairman of the working group will introduce his report to the Joint Meeting.

Particular attention is given to the question of including whole chapters or whole sections of the United Nations Model Regulations. The working group's proposal should be defined precisely and the Joint Meeting asked to decide yet again on the merits of the overall inclusion of standards figuring in the United Nations Model Regulations. It is true that the references contained in the United Nations Model Regulations have already been discussed by the United Nations and considered either by a working group or by the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods itself. The Joint Meeting must nevertheless take a decision on the introduction of these requirements into RID/ADR and the inclusion of the standards contained in the texts.
