

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

(74nd Session: Geneva, 19-23 May 2003)

(Agenda item 4 (c))

**Chapter 9.7
Paragraph 9.7.5.2**

Submitted by the Government of Italy

Summary:

Lateral stability of tank-vehicles: compliance with ECE Regulation R 111 by 1 July 2003.

Problem:

Impossibility to approve all type-approved vehicle before 30 June 2003.

Action:

Possible deferring/postponing of the date of entry into force of 12 months using a Multilateral Agreement

Reference documents:

None

Introduction:

As you know, the ADR 2003, and already the 2001 edition, prescribe that tank-vehicles (of categories N2, N3, O2 and O3) with fixed tank with capacity of more than 3 m³, intended for the carriage of dangerous goods in the liquid or molten state tested with a pressure of less than 4 bar, shall comply with the technical requirements of ECE Regulation n. 111 concerning lateral stability.

The requirements are applicable to tank-vehicle which are first registered as from 1 July 2003.

Since 2002 the vehicles builders started to test their type-approved vehicles in order to verify the compliance with R 111 before 1 July 2003.

Nevertheless, due to both the large number of vehicles to be tested and limited means at our disposal (only one testing area usable in Italy), we will hardly complete all the requested tests before the expiry date.

Besides this we considered as alternative solution for practical tests the R 111 calculation method but we met a lot of problem due to a large number of physical parameters involved into the mathematical calculation; in our opinion this kind of calculation needs to be previously certified to avoid results which do not represent the real vehicle behaviour.

At the end following a quick consultation between the other ADR Contracting Parties we understood that similar situation exist in several countries (i.e France and Germany).

Proposal:

If the Working Party agrees to postpone the date to entry into force, a possible solution could be an ad hoc Multilateral Agreement and Italy could be the initiating Country proposing a draft of that.

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