
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

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Draft ECOSOC Resolution

Submitted by the secretariat

Resolution 2005/...

Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1999/65 of 26 October 1999, 2001/34 of 26 July 2001, 2001/44 of 20 December 2001 and 2003/64 of 25 July 2003,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals¹ during the biennium 2003-2004,

A Work of the Committee regarding the transport of dangerous goods

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Committee for the harmonization of codes and regulations relating to the transport of dangerous goods,

Bearing in mind the need to maintain safety standards at all times and to facilitate trade, as well as the importance of this to the various organizations responsible for modal regulations, while meeting the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe transport of dangerous goods, including their security in transport,

Noting the increasing volume of dangerous goods being introduced into worldwide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Recalling its resolution 1975 (LIX) of 30 July 1975 whereby it requested the Committee to study, in consultation with other bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the then Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Air Transport Association and the regional commissions, the possibility of a joint approach to the drafting of an international convention on the transport of dangerous goods by all modes of transport which would take into account the general scope of a future convention on international intermodal transport,

Recalling also that in response to resolution 1975 (LIX) the Committee had, until now, considered that the consideration of such a convention would not be appropriate

¹ E/2005/...

until the various international agreements or conventions governing international transport of dangerous goods had not been harmonized,

Noting that the major international instruments governing the transport of dangerous goods by the various modes of transport (IMDG Code, ICAO Technical Instructions, ADR, RID, ADN) as well as many national regulations are now harmonized with the Model Regulations annexed to the Committee's Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, but that the lack of simultaneity in the updating process of national inland transport legislation in most countries of the world remains the major reason for regulatory disharmony at worldwide level and represents serious legislative obstacles to international multimodal transport,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals with respect to matters relating to the transport of dangerous goods, including their security in transport;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations² on the transport of dangerous goods to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the fourteenth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*³ and amendments to the fourth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria*⁴ in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 2005;

(c) To make these publications available on the web site of the Economic Commission for Europe, which also provides secretariat services to the Committee, and to make them available also on CD-ROM;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the secretariat of the Committee their views on the Committee's work, together with any comments that they may wish to make on the amended recommendations;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the international organizations concerned, when developing or updating appropriate codes and regulations, to take into account the recommendations of the Committee;

5. *Reiterates* its request to the Committee to study, in consultation with IMO, ICAO, regional commissions and intergovernmental organizations concerned, the possibility of a joint approach to the drafting of a convention on multimodal international transport of dangerous goods, or any other possibility of improving simultaneous implementation of the Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in all countries for the purposes of ensuring a high level of safety and eliminating technical barriers to international trade.

² ST/SG/AC.10/32/Add.1 and 2.

³ ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.14.

⁴ ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.4/Amendt.1.