UNITED NATIONS ST



Distr. GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2005/9 7 April 2005

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

<u>Sub-Committee of Experts on the</u> Transport of Dangerous Goods

Twenty-seventh session, 4-8 July 2005 Item7 of the provisional agenda

## MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Security provisions Chapter 1.4
Addition to the high consequence Dangerous Goods List

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

- 1. The expert from the United Kingdom draws the attention of the Sub-Committee to the omission of UN 3375 AMMONIUM NITRATE EMULSION or SUSPENSION or GEL, intermediate for blasting explosives from the indicative list of high consequence dangerous goods in Chapter 1.4 of the Model Regulations.
- 2. The Sub-Committee will be aware that this substance has potentially explosive properties and already needs competent authority approval for carriage in packages, IBCs and portable tanks.
- 3. UN 3375 candidate materials have been involved in a number of incidents, both in transport and in storage, over the past 15 years. The expert from the United Kingdom understands that a recent accident involving a UN 3375 material occurred in the Russian Federation last year when a mixer truck carrying 12-15 tonnes of ANE was involved in a fire. The crew had been using the gassing agent (used to sensitise the material to make an explosive) to flush out the delivery pipework. The vehicle had a tyre fire and, after about 40 minutes, about 8 tonnes of the material detonated. Like ammonium nitrate fertilisers, ANE's can be detonated with a suitably sized explosive booster and would give damage similar to that from ANFO; the attached photo files show an accident which occurred at Walden, Canada on 5/8/98 which involved 13 tonnes of ANFO and approximately 5 tonnes of other explosives.

## ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2005/9 page 2

4. The expert from the United Kingdom believes that because of this risk UN 3375 should be added to the table in 1.4.1 since, like Ammonium Nitrate, it could be misused in a terrorist incident (see introduction to Table 1.4.1).

## 5. **Proposal**

In Table 1.4.1 amend the entry under 5.1 as follows:

"Division 5.1 perchlorates, ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate fertilisers, 'ammonium nitrate emulsions or suspensions or gels, in bulk".

\* \* \*

## Annex



