PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO ANNEXES A AND B OF ADR

Section 7.5.7: Handling and stowage

Transmitted by the European Commission

SUMMARY

Executive summary: The objective of the proposal is to include, a note referencing the “European Best Practice Guidelines on cargo Securing for Road Transport” of the EC in section 7.5.7 “Handling and stowage”.

Action to be taken: Add a new Note after sub-section 7.5.7.1 in ADR.

Related documents: INF.16 (Belgium) (77th session).

Background

Under the auspices of the European Commission, an Expert Group was set up with representatives from Member States of the European Union to develop “Best Practice Guidelines” for cargo securing. The guidelines have now been completed and will shortly be published on the European Commission's website. The European Commission proposes that a reference to these guidelines should be added to sub-section 7.5.7.1. The referencing of these
guidelines has been discussed in the Committee on the transport of dangerous goods where a large majority of Member States were in favour of referencing the guidelines in ADR.

There is already a precedent in ADR for referencing such guidelines, section 5.4.2 references IMO guidelines on loading goods. The 14th revised edition of the UN Model Regulations also contains references to the IMO/ ILO/ UNECE “Guidelines for Packing Cargo Transport Units” under section 7.1.1. When the Committee on the transport of dangerous goods examined this issue the majority of Member States were also in favour of putting the references in section 7.1.1 of the model regulations also in sub-section 7.5.7.1 of ADR.

The Commission proposes to add a new Note under sub-section 7.5.7.1, which contains references to all of the above guidelines.

Proposal

Insert the following Note after sub-section 7.5.7.1 of ADR:

“NOTE: Guidance on the stowing of transport units can be found in the “European Best Practice Guidelines on Cargo Securing for Road Transport” published by the European Commission, and in the IMO/ ILO/ UNECE “Guidelines for Packing Cargo Transport Units (CTUs)” contained in the supplement to the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, or in the “Agreement governing the exchange and use of Wagons between Railway Undertakings (RIV 2000) Appendix II loading guidelines” published by the International Union of Railways (UIC). National Codes of Practice may also be available (for example the United Kingdom Department for Transport” Code of Practice on Safety of Loads on Vehicles”).

Justification

Safety: There may be an improvement in safety standards through increased awareness and use of the best practice guidelines.

Feasibility: No problems. ADR already contains references to other recommendations, for instance in section 5.4.2.

Enforceability: The guidelines were written with the facilitation of enforcement in mind.