Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
Geneva, 13–17 September 2010
Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda
Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN – Pending issues

5.3.1.7.2: Placards for radioactive material of Class 7

Transmitted by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) \(^1\)\(^2\)

Introduction

1. The fourth sentence of RID/ADR 5.3.1.7.2 says that the use of the word “RADIOACTIVE” in the bottom half of the placard in accordance with model No. 7D is optional to allow the use of this placard to display the appropriate UN Number for the consignment.

2. However, in the description of the placard in accordance with model No. 7D under the diagram, the alternative of displaying the UN Number is restricted in that 5.3.2.1.2 must require that the UN Number be given. This leads to a contradiction within the same paragraph.

3. In paragraph 542 of the IAEA Safety Requirements TS-R-1 (2009 edition), the last sentence under diagram 6 corresponds to the fourth sentence of RID/ADR 5.3.1.7.2. However, unlike RID/ADR, the description of the placard following the diagram does not contain an additional restriction.

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\(^1\) In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

\(^2\) Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2010/41.
4. In contrast to the UN Model Regulations and the IMDG Code, in RID/ADR, displaying the UN Number on the placard does not replace displaying the UN Number on the orange-coloured marking. For this reason, the reference to RID/ADR 5.3.2.1.2 in RID/ADR 5.3.1.7.2 should be deleted, without ruling out the alternative of displaying the UN Number, which can be useful in multimodal transport.

Proposal

5.3.1.7.2 Amend the description under the placard in accordance with Model No. 7D as follows (amendments are shown with a line through them):

"Symbol (trefoil): black; Background: upper half yellow with white border, lower half white;

The lower half shall show the word "RADIOACTIVE" or alternatively, when required, the appropriate UN Number (see 5.3.2.1.2) and the figure "7" in the bottom corner."