Secretariat

**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

Fortieth session
Geneva, 28 November – 7 December 2011
Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda
Listing, classification and packing: miscellaneous

"Torch" cigarette lighters containing lithium metal batteries

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom[1]

Background

1.   It has recently become apparent that a new type of cigarette lighter is being produced which contains not only a liquefied flammable gas but also a number of lithium metal batteries to power a torch (flashlight). The articles do not appear to fit readily under the existing classification for either UN1057 "Lighters containing flammable gas" or UN3091 "Lithium metal batteries contained in equipment". Attached to this working paper are photographs of these items and it can be seen that they can be quite large, although it is believed the one in the photograph does not exceed the 10g limit of liquefied petroleum gas specified in Special Provision 201.

2.   Given the concerns related to the transport of lithium batteries, particularly in the air mode, it is of great concern to see lithium metal batteries in such close proximity to a flammable gas and it is suggested the Model Regulations should recognise the hazard associated with this particular article and apply appropriate safeguards.

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[1] In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2011-2012 approved by the Committee at its fifth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/76, para. 116 and ST/SG/AC.10/38, para. 16).

Proposal

3.   The advice of the Sub-Committee is requested in respect of whether "torch" lighters are currently addressed by the Model Regulations. If not, the United Kingdom will produce a working paper for the July meeting based on the comments received.