

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

5 October 2011

Ninety-first session

Geneva, 8–11 November 2011

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Road tunnel restrictions for the passage of vehicles

Tunnel restrictions and Limited quantities

Transmitted by the Government of Switzerland

Summary

Executive summary: Following the decision to prohibit the carriage of loads of packages in limited quantities with an overall gross mass of carried packages exceeding 8 tonnes from accessing category E tunnels the text in 8.6.4 has to be corrected.

Action to be taken: Modify the text on 8.6.4.

Related documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/210, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2011/2.

I. Introduction

1. The WP.15 in May adopted the principle and some texts prohibiting the carriage of loads of packages in limited quantities with an overall gross mass of carried packages exceeding 8 tonnes from accessing category E tunnels (see 50. of the Report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/210). As mentioned in the report in order to achieve this Switzerland made during the discussion some proposals to his original document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2011/2. In the Annex II of the report in the second column on the table 8.6.4 the text "Passage forbidden where quantities carried exceed 8 tonnes (total gross mass) per transport unit according to Chapter 3.4" was inserted in the table 8.6.4 but only for C/E, D/E and E. This decision was taken after a quick check of the text in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2011/2 and an oral Swiss proposal in order to satisfy the majority of delegations to forbid the passage through tunnels of category E of loads of packages in limited quantities of more than 8 tonnes per transport unit. However the change in the text only for those three tunnel restriction codes doesn't reflect the decision of the WP.15 entirely.

2. In fact by checking again what possibilities of loads of packages in limited quantities exist, like already mentioned under the point 5. of the original document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2011/2, they remain still 45 entries which don't have the tunnel restriction code E but could be carried as limited quantities loads. These entries have for packages the tunnel restrictions codes B (UN 1204, 2059, 3101, 3102, 3221, 3222) and D (UN 1950, 2037, 2956, 3103 until 3110, 3223 until 3241, 3251, 3478 and 3479).

3. In order to reflect the decision taken in the May session of the WP.15 it is necessary from the point of view of the systematic to introduce in 8.6.4 the same restriction for all the

tunnel restriction codes and not only for the entries having tunnel restriction codes C/E, D/E and E. In order to achieve this in a simple way and to avoid future adaptations of the table in 8.6.4 we believe the introduction of a general sentence in 8.6.4 instead of introducing it in the table would be easier to understand.

Proposal

4. The amendment in 8.6.4 in Annex II of document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2010 shall read:

"Add the following text after the first sentence in 8.6.4 “.. are the following:” as follows:

“ Tunnel restrictions shall apply:

- through tunnels of category E to transport units for which marking in accordance with 3.4.13 as defined in 3.4.14 is required; and
 - to transport units for which an orange-coloured plate marking in accordance with 5.3.2 is required according the following table:” "
- (the actual table follows).
