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, 13–23 September 2011
Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda
Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN: new proposals

Amendment of 5.3.1.7.3 – Placards replaced by danger labels,
repetition on the carrying wagon/vehicle

Transmitted by the Government of Austria

Summary

Explanatory summary: The Joint Meeting has interpreted 5.3.1.3, in conjunction with
5.3.1.7.3, to mean that placards must also be affixed to carrying
wagons/vehicles when danger labels replacing placards are not visible
from the exterior. However, the texts of the provisions themselves
have been left unclear.

Decision to be taken: 5.3.1.7.3 needs an additional sentence to make it clear.

Related documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/39
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/110

Introduction

1. In document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/39, Austria pointed out that it was not
clear from the provisions whether the repetition of placards on carrying wagons/vehicles
prescribed in 5.3.1.3 is also necessary when, in accordance with 5.3.1.7.3, danger labels are
affixed instead of placards. While the wording clearly precludes this, the taxonomy of the
provisions seems to support it.
2. The Joint Meeting unanimously followed the considerations in terms of the system, but did not amend the text. A proposal from Austria to reduce the size of the placard in 5.3.1.7.3 based on the example of 5.3.1.7.4, and to dispense with the term of danger label in this context, was not adopted.

3. Austria has now taken up the Joint Meeting’s invitation to submit an alternative proposal.

4. In principle, 5.3.1.3 should be worded in such a way that the special case of danger labels would also be covered. However, as it would only be possible to do this with sufficient clarity by explicit recourse to this, i.e. to 5.3.1.7.3, Austria favours a simpler addition at the end of the paragraph.

Proposal

5. **5.3.1.7.3** Add the following sentence at the end:

   “If these labels are not visible from outside the carrying wagon/vehicle, placards according to 5.3.1.7.1 shall also be affixed to both sides of the wagon/to both sides and at the rear of the vehicle.”

Justification

6. **Safety:** The amendment follows the Joint Meeting’s interpretation, which leads to visible repetition of the marking, including in questionable cases, and thus to greater safety.

7. **Feasibility:** No problems are expected, as the amendment creates legal certainty, while not imposing any new requirements.