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**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  
Forty-first session**

Geneva, 25 June – 4 July 2012

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Listing, classification and packing: miscellaneous****Fire extinguishers: assignment to UN 1044 and packaging****Transmitted by the expert from Germany<sup>1</sup>****Background**

1. The application of the provisions for transport of fire extinguishers of UN 1044 of the Model Regulations, which have been incorporated - with some modifications - into RID/ADR for packaging and transport as well as - without modification - into the IMDG Code, caused industry and enforcement authorities in Germany several problems as regards the classification, packing and transport of various types of portable or movable fire extinguishers as well as of cylinders to be installed as replacement parts in local fire extinguishing installations.
2. This was brought to the attention of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting at its March 2012 session in informal document INF.19 circulated at the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting session) which is reproduced as informal document INF.7 for this session.
3. The Joint Meeting took note of the problems presented and decided after a discussion to bring them to the attention of the Sub-Committee.
4. The Joint Meeting accepted the proposal by Germany to host an informal intersessional working group on 13 June 2012 to discuss among other things this issue in more detail and to address it effectively. EIGA offered to issue the invitation for the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> 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).

5. The results should be brought to the attention of the Sub-Committee at its 41<sup>st</sup> session through an informal document.
6. The experts of the Sub-Committee are invited to take note of these activities and to provide comments. If the comments are brought to the attention of the expert from Germany prior to the meeting of the RID/ADR informal working group on 13 June, they will be taken into account in the discussions.
7. Clarification will be sought on whether all types of fire extinguishers shown in informal document INF.7 should be assigned to UN 1044 and whether P 003 is suitable for all those types of extinguishers. Especially the requirement of an outer packaging may be deemed to be not reasonable for some types, especially those with wheels or mounted on wheeled platforms. Also, questions on how to classify and transport replacement parts for fire extinguishers (especially cylinders to be replaced after use in locally installed fire extinguishing equipment) will be discussed.
8. The Sub-Committee is invited to discuss the issues and to decide as appropriate.

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