Amendments to Chapter 8.5 – Comments on TRANS/WP.15/2012/6 (Norway)

Transmitted by the Government of France

1. France understands the intent of document 2012/6 from Norway and agrees that the existing text using the term “vehicle” in Chapter 8.5, S1 concerning loading and unloading of Class 1 explosives creates a practical problem that shall be solved.

2. However the wording proposed in document 2012/6 creates another practical problem. Indeed, a trailer separated from its tractor vehicle is no longer considered as a transport unit.

3. Therefore if the wording proposed in 2012/6 was adopted, a trailer separated from its tractor unit would not be covered anymore by any of those safety distance requirements.

Proposal

4. The problem raised by Norway could be solved without creating this side effect by adding the following words to the existing text in S1(4)(d) in Chapter 8.5 as follows:

   “When vehicles carrying substances and articles of Class 1 are obliged to stop for loading or unloading operations in a public place, a distance of at least 50 m shall be maintained between the stationary vehicles. This distance shall not apply to vehicles belonging to the same transport unit.”.