

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General 7 August 2015

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Ninety-ninth session

Geneva, 9-13 November 2015 Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda **Proposals for amendments to Annexes A and B of ADR:** miscellaneous proposals

Simplification and alignment of Tunnel category E text and 1.9.5.2.2 of ADR

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom¹

Summary

Executive summary: The United Kingdom is aware that the current text for category

E tunnels in 1.9.5.2.2 and the associated text in 1.9.5.3.6 is unnecessarily complicated. There are also further inconsistencies with the text in 1.9.5.2.2 and that contained in

8.6.3.3 and 8.6.4.

Action to be taken: Amend the text in ADR within 1.9.5.2.2 and 8.6.4 NOTE 2.

Reference documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2015/2 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2015/5

Informal document INF.10 (ninety-eighth session)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/228

Please recycle

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2014-2015 (ECE/TRANS/240, para. 100, ECE/TRANS/2014/23, cluster 9, para.9.1).

Introduction

- 1. At the ninety-eighth session of the Working Party, the United Kingdom submitted informal document INF.10 proposing amendment to the text of 1.9.5.2.2 of ADR. Several delegations indicated their view that this proposal could improve the current wording of the description of category E in 1.9.5.2.2. The United Kingdom was invited to present the proposal as a formal document at the next session.
- 2. While reviewing ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2015/2 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2015/5, submitted at the last session of the Working Party, the United Kingdom noticed that all the UN numbers listed as exempt in 1.9.5.2.2 from tunnel category E are allocated '(-)' in column (15) of Table A of Chapter 3.2. It was also discovered that in the general application of tunnel restrictions in 1.9.5.3.6, the text takes a different approach. Instead of detailing each UN number exempt from the requirements, it simply refers to '(-)' in column (15) of Table A of Chapter 3.2.
- 3. Whilst both pieces of text at present reach the same conclusion, the potential exists for an alteration to column (15) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 e.g. from a '(letter)' to a '(-)' or one of the listed '(-)' entries to a '(letter)', with the necessary consequential amendment to the text for category E in 1.9.5.2.2 missed or forgotten. This would create a conflict between the Tunnel category E text and the text of 1.9.5.3.6.
- 4. Since the last meeting, the United Kingdom has also noticed that there is further inconsistency contained within 1.9.5.2.2. Currently this section states "...in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 3.4 if the quantities carried exceed 8 tonnes total gross mass per transport unit". This is inconsistent with the text contained within 1.9.5.3.6, 8.6.4 and 8.6.3.3, which directs the user to 3.4.13 and 3.4.14. As a consequential amendment the text of NOTE 2 to 8.6.4 should, for the same reasons be amended. The proposed amendments to the text in these sections do not change the meaning or intent behind the provisions. They merely amend the presentation of the provisions to match existing text used elsewhere within ADR.

Proposal

5. Add the underlined text and delete the crossed out text to 1.9.5.2.2, for tunnel category E (The NOTE remains unchanged) and to NOTE 2 to 8.6.4 as follows:

"1.9.5.2.2

Tunnel category E:

Restriction for the carriage of all dangerous goods other than for UN No 2814 (first entry in Table A of Chapter 3.2)² and UN No. 2900 (first entry in Table A of Chapter 3.2)³, and other than UN Nos. 2919, 3077, 3082, 3291, 3331, 3359 and 3373 those for which '(-)' is marked in Column (15) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 and for all other dangerous goods in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 3.4 if the quantities carried exceed 8 tonnes total gross mass per transport unit if the transport units carrying such goods are required to be marked in accordance with 3.4.13 subject to 3.4.14."

"8.6.4

² INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, AFFECTING HUMANS

³ INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, AFFECTING ANIMALS only

NOTE 2: Dangerous goods packed in limited quantities carried in containers or transport units marked in accordance with the IMDG Code are not subject to the restrictions for passage through tunnels of category E when the total gross mass of the packages containing dangerous goods packed in limited quantities does not exceed 8 tonnes per transport unit the transport units carrying such goods are not required to be marked in accordance with 3.4.13 subject to 3.4.14."

6. The amended text would read as follows:

"1.9.5.2.2

Tunnel category E:

Restriction for the carriage of all dangerous goods other than those for which '(-)' is marked in Column (15) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 and for all other dangerous goods if the transport units carrying such goods are required to be marked in accordance with 3.4.13 subject to 3.4.14.".

"8.6.4

NOTE 2: Dangerous goods packed in limited quantities carried in containers or transport units marked in accordance with the IMDG Code are not subject to the restrictions for passage through tunnels of category E when the transport units carrying such goods are not required to be marked in accordance with 3.4.13 subject to 3.4.14.".

Justification

7. These proposed amendments will align the ADR text, simplify the text and remove the possibility of future consequential amendments being missed or forgotten about which would create contradictory text. It will also act to align the text of 1.9.5.2.2 and 8.6.4 NOTE 2 with that of 1.9.5.3.6, 8.6.3.3 and 8.6.4, and in the case of the requirements contained within Chapter 3.4 direct the user to the relevant text.