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### Economic Commission for Europe

#### 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, 15–25 September 2015

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendment to RID/ADR/ADN:  
pending issues**

### **Possibility of electronic processes in the examination of safety advisers, ADR vehicle drivers and ADN experts**

**Transmitted by the Government of Germany<sup>1, 2</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> 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.9.2).

<sup>2</sup> Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2015/26/Rev.1.

*Summary*

- Executive summary:** The current provisions of RID/ADR/ADN 1.8.3 and ADR/ADN 8.2.2 stipulate that the examinations must be "in writing". In March 2015, the Joint Meeting endorsed the principle of including provisions for the use of electronic procedures for safety adviser examinations. Some comments were made on the various provisions, and as far as possible, these have been taken into account in this new proposal.
- Action to be taken:** Amendment of/additions to the provisions concerning the examination of safety advisers in RID/ADR/ADN 1.8.3. Note to WP.15 and the ADN Safety Committee to make equivalent amendments to ADR/ADN 8.2.2 for the examination of vehicle drivers and experts.
- Reference documents:** ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2015/21 (Germany) and report of the Joint Meeting in March 2015  
 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/138, paragraph 35; informal document INF.13 (Germany) and report of the Joint Meeting in September 2014  
 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/136, paragraph 36; informal document INF.9 (Germany) and report of the Joint Meeting in September 2012  
 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/128, paragraphs 29 and 30; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2014/3 and report of the 96<sup>th</sup> session of WP.15 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/224, paragraphs 10 to 12.

**Introduction**

1. At the last Joint Meeting session (Bern, 23 to 27 March 2015), Germany submitted document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2015/21, the aim of which was to introduce electronic processes in the examination of safety advisers, ADR vehicle drivers and ADN experts as a possible alternative to the written examination.
2. The Joint Meeting endorsed the principle of including provisions for the use of electronic procedures for safety adviser examinations. As a number of comments were made about the details of the proposal, the representative of Germany asked the delegations concerned to send him their comments in writing, so that they could be taken into account in a revised proposal, see also paragraph 35 of report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/138.
3. Germany subsequently received corresponding proposals from Spain and Denmark. In this connection, it was pointed out in particular that some of the provisions in the new 1.8.3.12.5 in document 2015/21 applied to the written examination as well as to the electronic examination. It was therefore recommended to move these provisions to the beginning of 1.8.3.12 (e.g. after 1.8.3.12.2) so that it is clear that these provisions generally apply to both forms of the examination. The view was also expressed that some of the provisions were too detailed for RID/ADR/ADN.
4. In addition, at the last Joint Meeting the representative of Germany commented as follows on the following requests for amendment/remarks:

**1.8.3.10**

5. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> indent, insert ", if necessary," after "including".

This requested amendment has been taken into account in the revised version.

**Carrying out "case studies"**

6. A case study can still be carried out as a written examination, see also the introductory sentence to the newly proposed 1.8.3.12.5: "Written examinations may be performed, in whole or **in part**, as electronic examinations".

**1.8.3.12.5 (a), (d) and (e)**

7. In principle, the content of paragraphs (a), (d) and (e) also applies to the written examination, so this text could be moved to come after 1.8.3.12.2, for example (applies to written and electronic tests).

**1.8.3.12.5 (b)**

8. In the first sentence, insert the following after "competent authority": "or by an examining body designated by the competent authority". This requested amendment has also been taken into account in the revised version.

**1.8.3.12.5 (b)**

9. "The hardware and software shall be checked and approved by the competent authority" should not be taken to mean formal approval. It is instead proposed to use the wording "checked and accepted".

**1.8.3.12.5 (b)**

10. The sentence "The possibility of any manipulation and deception shall be ruled out" has been replaced by "Any manipulation and deception must be ruled out **as far as possible**".

**Proposals for amendments**

11. RID/ADR/ADN 1.8.3.10 could be amended as follows (new text underlined; *amendments to document 2015/21 in italics*):

"1.8.3.10 The examination shall be organized by the competent authority or by an examining body designated by the competent authority. The examining body shall not be a training provider.

The examining body shall be designated in writing. This approval may be of limited duration and shall be based on the following criteria:

- competence of the examining body;
- specifications of the form of the examinations the examining body is proposing, including, if necessary, the infrastructure and organisation of electronic examinations in accordance with 1.8.3.12.5, if these are to be carried out;
- measures intended to ensure that examinations are impartial;
- independence of the body from all natural or legal persons employing safety advisers."

12. RID/ADR/ADN 1.8.3.12 2 could be amended as follows (new text underlined; *amendments to document 2015/21 in italics*):

"1.8.3.12.2 *The competent authority or an examining body designated by the competent authority shall supervise every examination. Any manipulation and deception must be ruled out as far as possible. Authentication of the candidate shall be ensured.* The use in the written test of documentation other than international or national regulations is not permitted. *All examination documents shall be documented and kept as a print-out or electronically as a file.*"

13. The following new 1.8.3.12.5 could be included in RID/ADR/ADN (*amendments to document 2015/21 in italics*):

"1.8.3.12.5 Written examinations may be performed, in whole or in part, as electronic examinations, where the answers are recorded and evaluated using electronic data processing (EDP) processes, provided the following conditions are met:

~~(a) The competent authority or an examining body designated by the competent authority shall supervise every examination. [see new 1.8.3.12.2].~~

~~(b)(a) The hardware and software shall be checked and ~~approved~~ accepted by the competent authority or by an examining body designated by the competent authority. The functioning of the application and the technical components shall be subjected to regular quality controls [too detailed for RID/ADR/ADN]. The possibility of any manipulation and deception shall be ruled out. [see new 1.8.3.12.2].~~

(b) Proper technical functioning shall be ensured. Arrangements as to whether and how the examination can be continued shall be made for a failure of the devices and applications. No aids shall be available on the input devices (*e.g. electronic search function*); the devices shall not be able to communicate with each other.

~~(c) All candidates taking the examination shall use the same input devices and applications. It shall be ensured that the candidates are instructed in the use of the input devices prior to the examination. [Too detailed for RID/ADR/ADN]~~

~~(d) Authentication of the candidate on the input device used and the unambiguous and permanent assignment of tasks and answers shall be ensured. [see new 1.8.3.12.2].~~

~~(e)(c)~~ Inputs and actions of each candidate shall be logged. The determination of the results shall be transparent. *All examination documents shall be documented and kept as a print out or electronically as a file. [see new 1.8.3.12.2].*

14. The provisions of ADR 8.2.2 concerning the examination to conclude the driver's training, and of ADN 8.2.2 concerning the examination to conclude the expert's training also prescribe a written examination. WP.15 and the ADN Safety Committee could check whether the possibility of electronic examinations could also be introduced here. Germany would be prepared to submit a corresponding proposal to WP.15 and the ADN Safety Committee.