



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 July 2015
English
Original: Russian

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 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN:

New proposals

Application of special provision for loading, unloading and handling CW36 (CV36) to loads with UN No. 2211, POLYMERIC BEADS, EXPANDABLE, evolving flammable vapour

Transmitted by the Government of the Russian Federation^{1,2}

Introduction

1. An incident involving a fire and explosion was reported to have occurred in a seaport in the Russian Far East in connection with the unloading of expandable polystyrene beads from a container. This product is used as an industrial raw material for the manufacture of insulation and contains a blowing agent (pentane, isopentane) of up to 7%.

2. Given the potential for pentane or isopentane to be released and to form an explosive gas mixture in air and for the product to accumulate static electricity, a number of conditions set out by the manufacturer in the light of the experience of working with the material must be met. To minimize the potential risk during loading or unloading, transport and storage, provision for a mandatory good ventilation system and protection against exposure to heat and any sources of ignition must be included in the safety data sheet by the manufacturer. In addition, the vehicle must be ventilated for at least one hour before unloading.

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.9.2).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2015/52.



3. In that regard, in annex 2 to the SMGS, for UN No. 2211, in column (18) of Table A, “List of dangerous goods”, an additional code is envisaged: CV/CW36.

“CV/CW36: Packages shall preferably be loaded in open or ventilated vehicles or open or ventilated containers. If this is not feasible and packages are carried in closed wagons or containers, the cargo doors of the wagons or containers shall be marked with the following in letters not less than 25 mm high:

‘WARNING
NO VENTILATION
OPEN WITH CAUTION’”

This shall be in a language considered appropriate by the consignor.

Proposal

4. In order to improve the safety of the transport of dangerous goods and harmonize the requirements for various transport modes, the Joint Meeting is invited to consider the possibility of applying special provisions CW36 (CV36) in Chapter 7.5 to loads with UN No. 2211 (column (18) of Table A).

Justification

5. These amendments would increase the safety of transport operations and harmonize the requirements for the carriage of loads with UN No. 2211 for various transport modes in countries with different regulatory frameworks for the transport of dangerous goods.
