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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****Fifty-second session**

Geneva, 27 November-6 December 2017

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Listing, classification and packing****Extension of the name and description of UN No. 2990 LIFE-  
SAVING APPLIANCES, SELF-INFLATING, Class 9****Transmitted by the expert from Germany\*****Introduction**

1. In accordance with the current edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, it is possible to assign self-inflating (life-saving) appliances to UN No. 2990 if they meet the requirements stipulated in special provision 296.

2. Special provision 296 reads as follows:

*These entries apply for life-saving appliances such as life rafts, personal flotation devices and self-inflating slides. UN 2990 applies for self-inflating appliances and UN 3072 applies for life-saving appliances that are not self-inflating. Life-saving appliances may contain:*

*(a) Signal devices (Class 1) which may include smoke and illumination signal flares packed in packagings that prevent them from being inadvertently activated;*

*(b) For UN 2990 only, cartridges, power device of Division 1.4, compatibility group S, may be contained for purposes of the self-inflating mechanism and provided that the quantity of explosives per appliance does not exceed 3.2 g;*

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\* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2017-2018 approved by the Committee at its eighth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/100, paragraph 98 and ST/SG/AC.10/44, paragraph 14)

- (c) Division 2.2 compressed or liquefied gases;
- (d) Electric storage batteries (Class 8) and lithium batteries (Class 9);
- (e) First aid kits or repair kits containing small quantities of dangerous goods (e.g.: Class 3, Division 4.1, Division 5.2, Class 8 or Class 9 substances); or
- (f) "Strike anywhere" matches packed in packagings that prevent them from being inadvertently activated.

*Life-saving appliances packed in strong rigid outer packagings with a total maximum gross mass of 40 kg, containing no dangerous goods other than Division 2.2 compressed or liquefied gases with no subsidiary hazard, in receptacles with a capacity not exceeding 120 ml, installed solely for the purpose of the activation of the appliance, are not subject to these Regulation.*

3. Apart from self-inflating devices used for life-saving, there also are self-inflating flotation devices that are used for salvaging measuring devices for use under water. Such underwater measuring devices include, for instance, so-called streamers that are deployed on the seabed within the framework of seismic exploration. At the end of the exploration, these measuring instruments are brought back to the surface of the sea by means of a so-called streamer recovery device (SRD).

4. The SRD includes a refillable gas cylinder that is opened by means of an activation device so that the gas can flow into several gas-tight bags thus increasing the buoyancy of the streamer.

5. The structure of the SRD meets the requirements laid down in special provision 296; however, the name and description of UN 2990 do not cover the intended use of the SRD.

## Proposal

6. It is proposed to make it possible to assign devices such as the SRD to UN 2990 and thus to amend the name and description of UN 2990 to read as follows:

UN 2990 LIFE-SAVING APPLIANCES, SELF-INFLATING or RECOVERY DEVICE, SELF-INFLATING

7. Moreover, it is proposed to amend special provision 296 to read as follows:

Special provision 296

These entries apply for life-saving appliances such as life rafts, personal flotation devices, self-inflating slides and flotation devices for technical underwater equipment. UN 2990 applies for self-inflating appliances and UN 3072 applies for life-saving appliances that are not self-inflating. Life-saving appliances and flotation devices for technical underwater equipment may contain:

- (a) Signal devices (Class 1) which may include smoke and illumination signal flares packed in packagings that prevent them from being inadvertently activated;
- (b) For UN 2990 only, cartridges, power devices or igniters of Division 1.4, compatibility group S, may be contained for purposes of the self-inflating mechanism and provided that the quantity of explosives per appliance does not exceed 3.2 g;
- (c) Division 2.2 compressed or liquefied gases;
- (d) Electric storage batteries (Class 8) and lithium batteries (Class 9);
- (e) First aid kits or repair kits containing small quantities of dangerous goods (e.g.: Class 3, Division 4.1, Division 5.2, Class 8 or Class 9 substances); or

(f) "Strike anywhere" matches packed in packagings that prevent them from being inadvertently activated.

Life-saving appliances and flotation devices for technical underwater equipment packed in strong rigid outer packagings with a total maximum gross mass of 40 kg, containing no dangerous goods other than compressed or liquefied gases with no subsidiary hazard, in receptacles with a capacity not exceeding 120 ml, installed solely for the purpose of the activation of the appliance, are not subject to these Regulations.

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