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

Bern, 19-29 September 2017

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN:
New proposals

Special provision 666

Transmitted by the Government of Switzerland* **

Summary

Executive summary: The understanding of the scope of special provision 666 could be improved by eliminating unnecessary terms.

Action to be taken: Amend the introductory sentence of special provision 666.

Introduction

1. The introduction in the first paragraph of special provision 666 seems too complicated and unnecessarily long in the context of RID/ADR/ADN.

2. It refers to vehicles assigned to UN No. 3171 and battery powered equipment assigned to UN No. 3171 and special provisions 240, 312 and 385.

3. Given that the special provision is assigned exclusively to UN Nos. 3166 and 3171, these details, which may have been necessary during the drafting of new provisions when it was not yet clear which provisions would be assigned to which entries, are no longer required following the conclusion of the process. Therefore, it is unnecessary to specify in special

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2016-2017 (ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1 (9.2)).

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provision 666 the entries to which it applies, since it is listed under these entries in Table A of Chapter 3.2. The references to UN Nos. 3166 and 3171 can therefore be removed.

4. Similarly, the assignment to UN Nos. 3166 and 3171 and the definition of vehicle in special provisions 240, 312 and 385 are criteria that need to be verified in advance to determine the entry under which a vehicle or equipment is to be transported. It is therefore unnecessary to mention special provisions 240, 312 and 385 again in special provision 666 since special provision 666 only applies to the entries identified by the consignor by referring to those same special provisions. The repetition in special provision 666 of the reference to special provisions 240, 312 and 385 is also unnecessary and can be removed.

5. In the introductory sentence, the words "carried as a load" are misleading. It does not appear that the purpose was to exempt dangerous goods carried as a load. However, the fact that these words are placed just before the phrase "are not subject to any other provisions of ADR" can be interpreted as allowing a general exemption for vehicle fuel irrespective of whether or not it is contained in the vehicles. The words "carried as a load" should be placed elsewhere in the sentence.

5. Special provision 666 is intended to define the conditions for the exemption of vehicles under UN Nos. 3166 and 3171, on the one hand, and of the dangerous goods they contain when vehicles are carried as a load, on the other hand. All these references make understanding the purpose of special provision 666 unnecessarily difficult. The text with the proposed amendments reads as follows:

666 Vehicles assigned to UN No. 3166 or UN No. 3171 and battery powered equipment assigned to UN 3171 in conformity with special provisions 240, 312 and 385, when carried as a load, as well as any dangerous goods they contain that are necessary for their operation or the operation of their equipment, when carried as a load, are not subject to any other provisions of ADR, provided the following conditions are met.

6. The final version of the introductory paragraph would read as follows:

666 Vehicles and battery powered equipment, when carried as a load, as well as any dangerous goods they contain that are necessary for their operation or the operation of their equipment, are not subject to any other provisions of ADR, provided the following conditions are met.