

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

105th session

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Work of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting

1 November 2018

Work of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting on its autumn 2018 session

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat reproduces, hereafter, the discussions of Joint Meeting, at its autumn 2018 session, related to the work of the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15). The full report of the autumn 2018 session has been circulated under the symbol ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/152 and Add.1.

The amendments adopted by the Joint Meeting for ADR are reproduced in informal document INF.21/Add.1 (available in English, French and Russian) for consideration of the Working Party.

Status of publication of standards

1. The Joint Meeting noted that the amendments concerning references to new standards or modifications to referenced standards which were adopted by the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) at its 103rd and 104th sessions and by the Joint Meeting at its spring 2018 session, and which were still unpublished on 1 June 2018 could not be included in the list of amendments to be notified to the Contracting Parties on 1 July 2018 for entry into force on 1 January 2019. Consequently, the amendments relating to standards EN ISO 17871:2015 + A1:2018, EN 1440:2016 + A1:2018, EN 16728:2016 + A1:2018, EN 13317:2018, EN 14025:2018 and EN 12972:2018 had been listed separately in annexes III and IV of the report of WP.15 on its 104th session, as draft amendments adopted by WP.15 for entry into force as soon as possible following their publication.
2. Noting that this procedure would require a separate notification to Contracting Parties, several delegations recalled that, due to European Union and national procedural requirements for transposition into national law of amendments notified following this procedure, their timely implementation could not be ensured. On these grounds, the Joint Meeting agreed that it would be preferable to consider their adoption for the 2021 edition of ADR.
3. The Joint Meeting recognized however that in the case of EN 12972, the scientific and technical progress achieved since the 2007 edition (currently referred to in ADR) and the 2018 edition justified the application of the provisions of the latter as soon as possible. It was noted that 6.8.2.7 of ADR allowed competent authorities to approve the use of standards adopted for reference in a future edition of ADR. There was agreement that a possible way to ensure the harmonized application of these provisions in all Contracting Parties/Contracting States, could be to encourage inspection bodies to apply the provisions of EN 12972:2018 as from a commonly agreed date, on the understanding that after that date,

only the 2018 edition of the standard should be used (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/152/Add.1, paragraph 6).

Action required from the Working Party

4. The Working Party is invited to adopt the draft amendments on standards adopted by the Joint Meeting, which are reproduced in Annex I of informal document INF.21/Add.1, as well as the guidelines for application of EN 12972:2018 reproduced in informal document INF.21/Add.1, annex II for publication on the UNECE and OTIF websites.

Other amendments adopted for entry into force on 1 January 2021

5. The Joint Meeting also adopted other amendments for the 2021 edition of ADR which are reproduced in informal document INF.21/Add.1, annex III.

Action required from the Working Party

6. The Working Party is invited to consider the draft amendments in annex III of informal document INF.21/Add.1.

Other matters

7. The Joint Meeting considered a document from France on improving the accident reporting in 1.8.5. After discussion, the Joint Meeting decided to entrust the work to an informal working group led by France and adopted the terms of reference for the work (see paragraph 54 and annex IV of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/152).

8. The Joint meeting also welcomed the work done by the secretariat with regard to listing the references to competent authorities in ADR 2019 parts 1 to 7, presented during the Joint Meeting autumn 2018 session in informal document INF.21. The Joint Meeting acknowledged that it would be difficult to analyse in plenary all the questions raised in informal document INF.21 and agreed to entrust their consideration to an informal working group. It was suggested to undertake the work in two phases: first, agree on a set of guiding principles for the definition of the type of competent authority that needs to be referred to and how; and second, revise the existing references in accordance with these principles (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/152, paragraphs 57 to 59).

9. The Joint Meeting also considered the work completed by the working group on the definition of “risk” and “hazard/danger” in the context of RID/ADR/ADN. It was noted that some of the amendments concerned texts from the Model Regulation. The representative of Romania, who is leading this work, was invited to bring this to the attention of the TDG Sub-Committee. The Joint Meeting invited the representative of Romania to submit an official document for the next session with the proposed amendments to RID/ADR/ADN. The decisions taken by the Joint Meeting would be then brought to the attention of the WP.15, the ADN Safety Committee and the RID Committee of Experts’ standing working group (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/152, paragraphs 47 to 50).
