

## **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, 12-16 March 2018

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

**Reports of informal working groups**

**14 February 2018**

### **Report of the Informal Working Group on the drafting of definitions for the terms “RISK” and “HAZARD/DANGER” in the context of the RID/ADR/ADN**

**Transmitted by the Government of Romania and the International Union of Railways (UIC) on behalf of the Informal Working Group**

#### **Introduction**

1. The Informal Working Group on the drafting of definitions for the terms “risk” and “hazard/danger” in the context of the RID/ADR/ADN met on 15 and 16 January 2018 at the headquarters of the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA), Valenciennes, France on the basis of the mandate of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. Mihai Cuciureanu (Romania) and Mr. Jean-Georges Heintz (International Union of Railways - UIC).
2. The Informal Working Group brought together experts representing contracting parties/member states, international organisations and industry as mentioned in the enclosed list of participants.
3. In order for the Group to work effectively, RO and UIC prepared the following documents that were distributed to participants in advance:
  - The mandate of the Informal Working Group - excerpt from the Joint Meeting Report - September 2017;
  - The draft agenda;
  - An introductory note on hazard and risk;
  - An excerpt from the Globally Harmonized System of Labelling and Classification of Chemicals - GHS on the notions of "hazard" and "risk";
  - An excerpt from the UN Recommendations on Nature, Purpose and Principles of the UN Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods;
  - A table of definitions of "danger/hazard" and "risk" used in other regulations and international standards;
4. The following documents were also submitted to the participants:
  - The Glossary of definitions of the Working Group on Risk Management for the Transport of Dangerous Goods that develops the Guides on the Risk Management Framework for Inland Transport of Dangerous Goods (the version applicable under the Voluntary Implementation Scheme 2018-2020);
  - The informal document INF.4/Add.1 prepared by RO, UIC and IRU for the September 2017 RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting with the specific cases where changes needed to be made regarding the use of the terms "danger/hazard" and "risk".

5. After the approval of the agenda, the documents mentioned above were presented. The table of definitions was completed through correspondence by Spain with relevant definitions from air and maritime regulations.
6. The work on drafting the definitions began under these conditions.
7. The proposed definitions of the terms "danger/hazard" and "risk" had been developed in the context of RID/ADR/ADN regulations, considering the relationship with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals - GHS, international standards relating to risk (vocabulary, evaluation and assessment methods), the glossary for the guideline drawn up as part of the work of the TDG workshops <sup>(1)</sup> and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 402/2013 of the European Commission on the common safety method for risk evaluation and assessment.
8. It was also checked how these definitions will be applied in RID/ADR/ADN.
9. In parallel, the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) had organised a workshop at its headquarters concerning the guides on risk management in the transport of dangerous goods. Under these circumstances, the two groups had the opportunity to exchange views.

## Proposals

10. As a consequence, the Informal Working Group submitted to the Joint Meeting two options for both definitions, as follows:

### DANGER/HAZARD – GEFAHR – DANGER

#### OPTION 1

EN "*Danger/hazard*" means:

- a situation or
- in the context of substances or articles, their intrinsic properties or the particular conditions, which could be a source of potential harm.

**Note:** For the purposes of RID/ADR/ADN, the terms Danger and Hazard are equivalent. (only for EN versions)

"*Hazard*", see "*Danger/Hazard*". (only for EN versions)

DE "Gefahr":

- Eine Situation oder
- in Zusammenhang mit Stoffen oder Gegenständen deren intrinsische Eigenschaften oder deren besonderer Zustand,

die/der Ursache eines potenziellen Schadens sein kann (können).

FR "Danger"

- une situation ou
- en relation avec des matières ou objets, leurs caractéristiques intrinsèques ou états particuliers,

pouvant être à l'origine de dommages potentiels.

**OPTION 2**

**EN** "*Danger/Hazard*" means an intrinsic property or the particular conditions of a substance or article which could be a source of potential harm.

**Note:** For the purposes of RID/ADR/ADN, the terms Danger and Hazard are equivalent. (only for EN versions)

"*Hazard*", see "*Danger/Hazard*". (only for EN versions)

**DE** „Gefahr“: Die inhärente Eigenschaft oder der besondere Zustand eines Stoffes oder Gegenstandes, die/der Ursache eines potenziellen Schadens sein kann.

**FR** “Danger” : la caractéristique intrinsèque ou l’état particulier d’une matière ou d’un objet pouvant être à l’origine de dommages potentiels.

**RISK – RISIKO – RISQUE****OPTION 1**

**EN** "*Risk*" means a combination of the frequency of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm.

**DE** "Risiko": Eine Kombination aus der Häufigkeit des Auftretens eines Schadens und der Schwere dieses Schadens.

**FR** “Risque” : une combinaison de la fréquence d’occurrence d’un dommage et de sa gravité.

**OPTION 2**

**EN** "*Risk*" means the likelihood of a specific effect to occur.

**DE** „Risiko“: Die Wahrscheinlichkeit, dass eine bestimmte Wirkung eintritt.

**FR** “Risque” : la probabilité de survenue d’un effet spécifique.

**List of participants**  
**Informal Working Group on the Drafting of Definitions for the Terms “Risk” and “Hazard/Danger”**  
**in the context of the transport of dangerous goods by rail, road and inland waterways**  
**Valenciennes, ERA Headquarters (15 - 16 January 2018)**

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<sup>1</sup> See ECE-TRANS-WP15-AC1-2017-GE-INF7e “Risk management in the context of road, railways and inland waterways Transport of Dangerous Goods”.