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Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units

Proposals to collect statistics and further promote the use of the CTU Code

Submitted by the Secretariat

I. Introduction and mandate

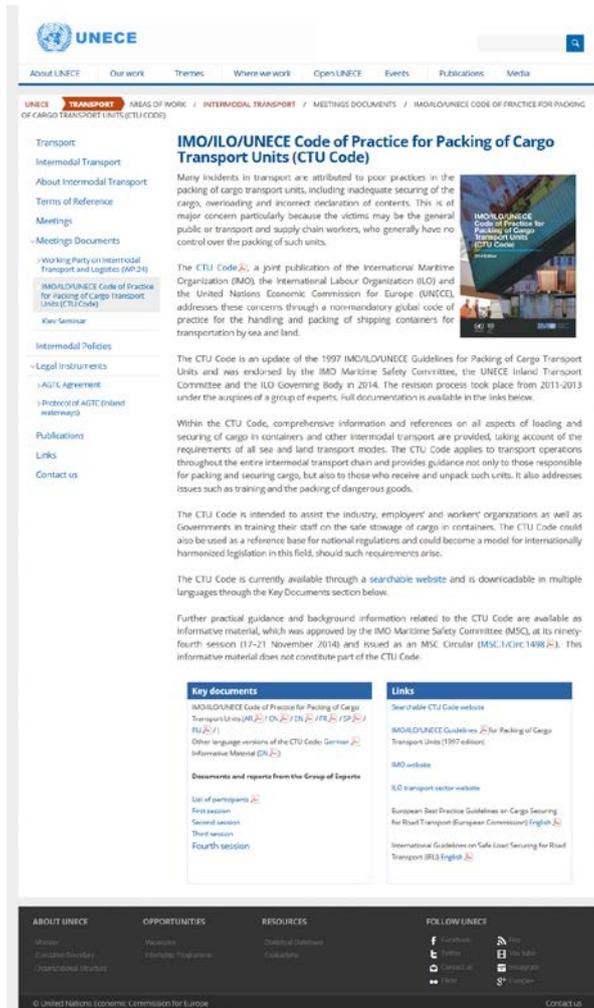
1. This document has been prepared in line with the output/activities of cluster 6: “Intermodal Transport and Logistics” of the programme of work of the transport subprogramme for 2018-2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21 and add.1) as adopted by the Inland Transport Committee on 23 February 2018 (ECE/TRANS/274, para. 123).
2. The Working Party at its last session recognised that the CTU code is mainly being used by the private sector and nobody reports when and for which reasons the code is used. Therefore, it would be difficult if not impossible for the secretariat or other bodies to collect statistics on CTU handling related incidents or even to disseminate available information on the use of the CTU Code. The secretariat suggested exploring different options in order to better disseminate the CTU code or even to collect some relevant information concerning its use. For instance, a registration form could be introduced before downloading the code in different languages to collect some indicative statistics on the possible use of the code or even the use of a more sophisticated tool could be introduced if there is no need for extra resources. available.
3. The Working Party may wish to consider formal document ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2018/2 which includes the proposal from the secretariat.

II. Collection of statistics on the use of the CTU Code

4. The main objective of the proposals in this document is the collection data and statistics on the use of the CTU Code in the least intrusive manner possible. The first proposal (Option A) can be implemented quite fast since the only requirement needed is the restructuring of the existing web page of the CTU Code. The second proposal (Option B) is more complicated, it requires extra budgetary funding however it could be a long-lasting sustainable solution as it concerns the promotion of the code worldwide as well as the massive collection of detailed data.

A. Restructuring of the current web page

5. The current web page of the code (UNECE web site) is a rather classic one and it is based on the template used for all UNECE web pages.



6. We would suggest a more market-oriented approach regarding the download of the code which in parallel would be a data collection mechanism. In the middle of the page a downloading area will be created. The covers of the different language versions will be available for download in the middle rendering it more eye-catching. Below each language version a notice will be added reminding users two very important issues:

- The aim of this IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code) is to give advice on the safe packing of cargo transport units (CTUs) to those responsible for the packing and securing of the cargo and by those whose task it is to train people to pack such units; and
- Downloading the code is free of charge and no registration, no emails, no fees are required. However, while downloading it and for statistical reasons three questions will be asked that can be answered by choosing one option from the drop-down menu.

7. Therefore, the users will know in advance how the downloading process works, and they will be ready to answer the three questions required.

The screenshot shows the UNECE website page for the IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code). The page includes a navigation menu with options like 'About UNECE', 'Our work', 'Themes', 'Where we work', 'Open UNECE', 'Events', 'Publications', and 'Media'. The main content area features a sidebar with links to 'Transport', 'Intermodal Transport', 'About Intermodal Transport', 'Terms of Reference', 'Meetings', 'Meetings Documents', 'Intermodal Policies', 'Legal Instruments', 'Publications', 'Links', and 'Contact us'. The main content area has a heading 'IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code)' and a sub-heading 'Download your copy now!'. Below this, there are seven buttons for downloading the code in different languages: English, French, Russian, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, and German. A 'Remember' section lists two points:

1. The aim of this IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code) is to give advice on the safe packing of cargo transport units (CTUs) to those responsible for the packing and securing of the cargo and by those whose task it is to train people to pack such units.
2. The code can be downloaded for free. However, for statistical reasons, while downloading it you will be required to answer three questions by choosing one answer from the drop down menu. NO Registration, NO emails, NO fees are required.

Further practical guidance and background information related to the CTU Code are available as informative material, which was approved by the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), at its ninety-fourth session (17-21 November 2014) and issued as an MSC Circular (MSC.1/Circ.1498). This informative material does not constitute part of the CTU Code.

8. The proposed three questions are the following:

- Please tell us from which country are you from? With a drop-down menu for the answers with all countries names in alphabetical order for the user to choose;
- Please tell us in which sector are you working with? With a drop-down menu with possible answers for the user to choose. The following could be included: freight forwarding, Logistics (3PL/4PL), Transport Company, Customs, Intermodal Terminal, Freight Village, Logistics Centre, Academia, other (please specify);
- Please tell us the reason why you would like to use the code. With a drop-down menu with possible answers for the user to choose. The following could be included: general interest, academia/research, identify responsibilities of each stakeholders, general transport conditions, loading containers, loading domestic containers, loading swap bodies, loading roll trailers, loading road vehicles, loading rail wagons, suitability of the cargo, suitability for the transport mode, CTU arrival, CTU checking, positioning CTU for packing, principles of packing, packing and securing materials, securing

cargo in CTUs, packing bulk materials, packing of dangerous goods, unpacking of a CTU, safe handling of CTUs, other (please specify).

9. By answering these questions, the secretariat will be able to know who is using the code (sector), from which country (region) and for what purpose. In combination with the number of downloads per month and per year which can already be obtained from UNECE website statistics (recent annual statistics are set out in the table below) this approach will provide a very good first analysis of the use of the code.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of downloads</i>
2015	2530
2016	2128
2017	1889
2018 (to 10 September)	1195

The screenshot shows the UNECE website interface. At the top, there is the UNECE logo and a search bar. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: About UNECE, Our work, Themes, Where we work, Open UNECE, Events, Publications, and Media. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: UNECE > TRANSPORT > AREAS OF WORK > INTERMODAL TRANSPORT > MEETINGS DOCUMENTS > IMO/ILO/UNECE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PACKING OF CARGO TRANSPORT UNITS (CTU CODE). A sidebar on the left lists various categories under 'Transport' and 'Legal Instruments'. The main heading is 'IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code)'. Below the heading is a call to action: 'You are ready to Download your copy! Please answer our three questions!'. There are three numbered questions, each with a dropdown menu: 1. Please tell us from which country are you from? 2. Please tell us in which sector are you working with? 3. Please tell us the reason why you would like to use the code. A blue 'DOWNLOAD' button is positioned below the questions.

B. Preparation of a smart phone application

10. Another, more time and budget consuming, but rather long-lasting and sustainable, way would be to create a smartphone application. Experience shows that every day users, the workers in the transport industry cannot load and unload a cargo unit by having a book next to them. An easy and user-friendly tool should exist which they could use any time, easily and in line with current technological advances and needs. This could be an application for smartphones which will transform the CTU Code into a day to day loading tool.

11. Before downloading this tool, the relevant terms of reference should be created and accepted by each user where in details and specifically the role and objectives of the CTU Code would be described.

12. The main characteristics of the application would be:

- It will be downloaded as an application on smartphones of users (across different platforms);
- It should be free;
- It should use the camera of the smart phone in order to detect the loading unit and type of cargo to be loaded. Automatically the user, by scanning the loading unit and type of cargo will retrieve the appropriate/relevant good practices including schemes and text;
- The user will have the opportunity to search the application by using key words i.e. dangerous goods;
- The user who considers a good practice or in loading or opening a loading unit, or identifies a bad practice through a damaged unit or bad loading will be able to take a picture and upload it to the good or bad practices section of the application. This section will be available to all users worldwide and it will lead to the creation of a library with case studies on good and bad practices based on the CTU Code. This will give also the opportunity to update the code based on daily practice;
- The application will collect automatically statistics on the use of the code therefore allowing for online, real time detailed statistics on the use of the CTU code;

13. In future, the application could be used in combination with other existing loading tools that are part of transport enterprise resource planning software offering an integrated loading solution to transport market.

14. The preparation however, of such an application raise many questions that have to be answered:

- Budget and time restrictions;
- Maintenance and update of the application;
- The three organizations adoption and agreement on the preparation of such a tool;
- Liability issues that might exist while using the application.

