Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

107th session 13 November 2019
Geneva, 11-15 November 2019
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Eighty first session of the Inland Transport Committee

Benefits of WP.15 meetings

Transmitted by the Government of Turkey
BENEFITS OF WP.15 MEETINGS
Turkey became a contracting party to ADR on 22 March 2010.

Directorate General for the Transport of Dangerous Goods and Combined Transport Regulation, which is affiliated to Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, was established for centralised management of transport of dangerous goods by all modes. The Directorate General started its institutional structuring on 14 June 2012.

The first WP.15 meeting Turkey attended was sixty-eighth session. (2000)
The benefits of the WP.15 meetings for Turkey are as follows:

1. Submitting the activities and plans of Turkey under the ADR agreement relating to the documents.

2. Following the legal, technical, administrative and practical developments firsthand.

3. Receiving information on problems faced by other countries.

4. Through discussions with authorities/bodies or via documents they submit, we have the opportunity to verify our own practices and to obtain information on better practices, if any.

(For example, as a country considering to implement online training, hearing the experiences of other countries was helpful in planning this issue.)
5. Protecting the interests of our sector and our country by intervening in the decision-making process for the changes to be made.

6. The opportunity of exchanging views on the gray issues in the legislation and to obtaining information on the practices in these areas.

7. The opportunity of making proposals for changes in the legislation and to including them in the agenda of the meeting.

8. The opportunity of changing our national law regarding the information taken by the meetings.

9. Receiving opinions and preventing wrong implementations in advance.

(In the 90th session where we presented the draft ADR Driver Certificate, the correction made by other representatives of the meeting on the writing of the date saved us from the costs of subsequent card replacement. (3-5 May 2011- Inf.18 90th WP.15))
10. Effective implementation of the decisions taken during the meeting and informing the relevant sector in advance and planning our national practices regarding the changes.

11. The opportunity of being informed early about the informal working groups and joining them. (inspection of tanks, definitions etc.)

12. The opportunity of networking, connecting with other countries’ representatives.

13. The opportunity of having one-to-one conversations at breaks.

14. The topics discussed in the meetings can be useful in the selection of the words we are undecided about when ADR is translated into Turkish.

15. Learning views and implementations of the countries spoken.

(Although the report of the meeting is very useful, sometimes there are important details not included in the report. Also, reports often include statements like “some representatives” or “most of them”. By joining the meetings we can learn country