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**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**

Geneva, 17–27 September 2019

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

**New proposals****Updating of references to UIC technical literature on  
combined transport**

**Transmitted by the International Union of Railways (UIC)\*,\*\***

*Summary*

**Executive summary:** The purpose of this proposal is to update the references to UIC technical literature on combined transport. Since the 2014 Joint Meeting in Bern, where the subject was discussed, UIC literature has developed in form and content within the framework of ongoing dialogue with stakeholders. This evolution is part of the UIC plan to transform UIC leaflets into IRS (International Railway Solutions) in order to take into account changes in in European and international railway legislation and to ensure that UIC literature is consistent with the ISO and EN standards established by the standardization bodies.

**Action to be taken:** Amend the text of 6.11.4.1 and 7.1.3 of RID/ADR where reference is made to UIC leaflets.

**Documents:** ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/134 (New proposals, paras. 40–42)

**Introduction**

1. The regulations and technical literature relating to combined transport are evolving to facilitate the development of combined transport. Reference to technical literature prepared

\* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1 (9.2)).

\*\* Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2019/29.



by UIC dates back to the 1990s, when UIC was the main source of international rail standards. This is no longer the case today.

2. It is important to note that the technical literature prepared by UIC is not specific to the transport of dangerous goods. The literature concerns intermodal freight transport in general. It has been referenced in RID and ADR for its contribution to the safety of this type of loading on wagons.

3. UIC also publishes loading guidelines to ensure that goods are properly stowed on wagons. They, too, are cited in the provisions on containers and as best practices in RID (7.5.7.1 Handling and stowage).

4. UIC's technical literature on combined transport in 2020 will be based on two IRS (International Railway Solutions), as follows:

- IRS 50592: Intermodal Transport Units (other than semi-trailers) for vertical transshipment and suitable for carriage on wagons – Minimum requirements
- IRS 50591 (in progress): Roller units for horizontal transshipment – Technical conditions governing their use in international traffic

5. The scope of the IRS is specified in accordance with European and international standards. The IRS extract that appears in informal document INF.3 provides most of the information on the subject and a bibliography on standards.

## Proposals

Make the following amendments:

### “6.11.4.1 (...)

**NOTE:** These bulk containers also include containers conforming to ~~the UIC leaflets 591, 592 and 592-2 to 592-4~~ **IRS 50591 (Roller units for horizontal transshipment – Technical conditions governing their use in international traffic)\* and 50592 (Intermodal Transport Units (other than semi-trailers) for vertical transshipment and suitable for carriage on wagons – Minimum requirements)\*\* published by UIC** as mentioned in 7.1.3 which do not conform to the CSC.

\* 1st edition of IRS (International Railway Solution) applicable as from 1 January 2020.

\*\* 1st edition of IRS (International Railway Solution) applicable as from 1 January 2019.

7.1.3 Large containers, portable tanks, MEGCs and tank-containers which meet the definition of “container” given in the CSC (1972), as amended, or in ~~UIC leaflets 591 (status at 01.10.2007, 3rd edition), 592 (status at 01.10.2013, 2nd edition), 592-2 (status at 01.10.2004, 6th edition), 592-3 (status at 01.01.1998, 2nd edition) and 592-4 (status at 01.05.2007, 3rd edition)~~ **IRS 50591 (Roller units for horizontal transshipment – Technical conditions governing their use in international traffic)\* and 50592 (Intermodal Transport Units (other than semi-trailers) for vertical transshipment and suitable for carriage on wagons – Minimum requirements)\*\* published by UIC** may not be used to carry dangerous goods unless the large container or the frame of the portable tank, MEGC or tank-container satisfies the provisions of the CSC or of ~~UIC leaflets 591, 592 and 592-2 to 592-4~~ **IRS 50591 and 50592 of UIC.**

\* 1st edition of IRS (International Railway Solution) applicable as from 1 January 2020.

\*\* 1st edition of IRS (International Railway Solution) applicable as from 1 January 2019.”