COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

(Twenty-first session, 4-13 December 2000, agenda item 2 (b))

WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

Draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Transport of solids in bulk containers other than freight containers

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

During the discussion on the transport of solid substances in bulk containers at the 18th session of the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the Sub-Committee agreed that regulations should be developed not only for freight containers but also for other types of bulk container. The expert from Germany is submitting revised proposals building on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2000/29. The expert from the United Kingdom now submits proposals below for Part 6 of the Model Regulations which are intended to supplement the proposals from Germany by addressing provisions for bulk containers other than freight containers. A proposal for text in Part 4.3 addressing the transport of radioactive material, which reiterates the proposal made by the United Kingdom during the debate on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2000/29, is also included here.

The general provisions proposed for Part 4.3 of the Model Regulation in the German proposal are intended to apply to all bulk containers, as defined.

Text based on new UN paragraph 4.1.3.8 has been developed to cover other types of bulk container. However much of the relevant type of text in 4.1.3.8 is already covered in 4.3, in particular 4.3.1.5, 4.3.1.9 and 4.3.1.12 in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2000/29.

Approval documentation has been proposed rather than marking and reference to the approval on the transport document has been preferred to carrying a copy of the approval with the bulk container (see Packing instruction P101).

GE.00-
PROPOSAL

Add a new 6.8.3 as follows:

“6.8.3 Requirements for the design, construction and approval of bulk containers other than freight containers

6.8.3.1 Bulk containers covered in this part include skips, bulk bins, swap bodies, trough shaped containers, roller containers and the load carrying compartments of road and rail vehicles.

6.8.3.2 These bulk containers shall be designed and constructed so as to be strong enough to withstand the shocks and loadings normally encountered during transport including, as applicable, transhipment between vehicles and other modes of transport.

6.8.3.3 Such bulk containers shall be approved by the competent authority and the approval shall include the code for designating types of bulk container in accordance with 6.8.2.2. [Approvals shall be renewed at intervals not exceeding [2½ years].]

6.8.3.4 The State’s distinguishing sign for motor vehicles in international traffic of the country for which the competent authority acts, shall be marked on the transport document as follows: -

“Bulk container [BK]X approved by the competent authority of ……”  

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Radioactive material

The transport of radioactive material in bulk (unpackaged in IAEA terminology) is already covered by 4.1.9.2.3 in conjunction with the definition of contamination in 2.7.2 and the requirements of 2.7.5(a)(i). These requirements reflect the provisions of the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material 1996 (TS-R-1) and there appears to be no reason for any additional text other than a cross-reference to the existing text. If any provisions over and above those of TS-R-1 were to be proposed, then reference to IAEA would be appropriate.

PROPOSAL

“4.3.3.4 Bulk goods of Class 7

For the transport of unpackaged radioactive material, see 4.1.9.2.3.”