

**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
ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS**

Draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Documentation for the transport of dangerous goods

Transmitted by the International Technical Committee for the prevention and Extinction of Fire
CTIF

The CTIF supports the recommendations by the observer from IATA in ST/SG/AC.10/2000/36 to reverse the Sub-Committee's decision and to maintain the currently required sequence of information specified in 5.4.1.2.2.

Especially the CTIF members from USA and Canada expressed their deep concern about the possible change of the sequence in the transport document, because all their training material and reference books would have to be changed.

On the other hand the European CTIF members now trained mainly on the ADR/RID but also familiar with the UN-sequence do not believe that providing the UN number as the first item of information will enhance safety.

Because the UN-number is the key entry for information about dangerous goods emergency responders very much rely on the number displayed outside the land transport units. Therefore the UN-number shown in the transport document is more or less used as a back-up that the number which already has been identified from a safety distance is correct. The position of the number on the document does not make a big difference as long as the 4-digit number has the prefix UN.

CTIF believes that the costs to change the sequence and subsequently revise the training in those countries now using the current UN-system would not be justified by safety considerations and therefore recommends to maintain the current sequence.

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