

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF
DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY
HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods**

**(Twenty-second session, 2-6 December 2002,
agenda item 4 and 6)**

Evaluation of UN-packaging requirements

Transmitted by the expert from the Netherlands

1. During this current biennium in the UN Sub-Committee a discussion took place on different documents whether and how packaging requirements could be improved for the benefit of the safety of the transport of dangerous goods.
2. Different views were raised on how to tackle some problems related with packagings in practice, and a need for further investigation has been expressed, before taking some decisions without a better understanding of the nature of the problems.
3. In the Netherlands we experience incidents in practice too, which are quite different of nature, and which could endanger safety.
4. We therefore asked the research and testing institute TNO Product Testing & Consultancy (TNO PTC) in the Netherlands to make an inventory of problems in practice, to analyse them and to come up with recommendations for solutions, which could be helpful to the UN Sub-Committee too.
5. The investigation of TNO PTC took place this year and resulted in the report "Evaluation of UN-packaging requirements" which is annexed to this INF. paper.
6. The recommendations in this report are not addressed to regulators only but also to other participants in the safety chain (industry, enforcement bodies, test institutes, etc.) which could play their part in a responsible care of safety too.
7. As this report has been published very recently, the Netherlands did not finalise the discussion on the follow-up of the given recommendations. However we feel that it is important that other countries can take notice of the results of this study. It would be helpful to have a general discussion in the Sub-Committee in which way the issues raised in this report could be handled in terms of future work.

=====
Annex : TNO-Report : "Evaluation of UN-packaging requirements"