



**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****Thirty-eighth session**

Geneva, 29 November–7 December 2010

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Guiding principles for the Model Regulations**Amendment to the Guiding Principles****Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom¹**

1. Following adoption in the current biennium of provisions for the safe transport of so-called “de minimis” quantities of dangerous goods, it is proposed to add text to the Guiding Principles to explain the rationale behind its adoption.
2. The expert of the United Kingdom therefore proposes to add after the table and notes under the heading "Chapter 3.5, Excepted quantities" the following:

““De minimis” quantities (3.5.1.4)

Excepted quantities of dangerous goods assigned to codes E1, E2, E4, and E5 are not subject to the Model Regulations in quantities often referred to as "de minimis". The rationale behind "de minimis" quantity provisions is that selected dangerous goods packed in minute quantities, with limitations on the quantity per inner packaging and outer packaging and in good quality packaging pose a negligible risk in transport compared to those same goods packed in larger quantities. On this basis relief from all other provisions of the Model Regulations is accepted. Subjecting minute quantities of certain goods to the full requirements of the Model Regulations is of questionable value, and may also falsely communicate a risk in transport. This in turn can lead to unjustified precautions and unnecessary incident response actions which are unwarranted and have a negative effect on transport safety. To ensure consistency with the excepted quantity provisions, only dangerous goods assigned to excepted quantity codes E1, E2, E4, and E5 qualify for “de minimis” provisions:

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2009-2010 approved by the Committee at its fourth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68, para. 118 (h) and ST/SG/AC.10/36, para. 14).

<i>E-Code</i>	<i>Maximum quantity per inner receptacle</i>	<i>Maximum quantity per package</i>
E1, E2, E4, and E5	1 ml (liquids and gases) 1 g (solids)	100 ml (liquids and gases) 100 g (solids)

”.
