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**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****Forty-sixth session**

Geneva, 1 – 9 December 2014

Item 2 (d) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on its forty-third,  
forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions and pending issues: transport of gases****Working group on global recognition of UN and non-UN  
pressure receptacles****Transmitted by the Compressed Gas Association (CGA)<sup>1</sup>****Background**

1. During the forty-fourth session held in November/December 2013, as noted in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/88, paragraphs 33 to 35, the Sub-Committee accepted the following regarding work on global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles:

- “(a) It was possible that the solution might not be found in the framework of the Model Regulations and that it might instead fall within the remit of national or regional regulations or other instruments;
- (b) The aim of the intersessional correspondence work should be to facilitate discussions and draw up recommendations that might have to be implemented or followed up outside of the framework of the Sub-Committee;
- (c) The short-term objectives were the following:
  - (i) To enhance recognition of UN pressure receptacles;
  - (ii) To allow for the import/export not only of UN pressure receptacles but also of filled ‘non-UN’ pressure receptacles, bearing in mind that

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

pressure receptacles have a long service life (approximately 50 years) (the terms ‘import/export’ referring here to international transport, not international trade);

(iii) To enhance recognition of pressure receptacles containing solids or liquids.”

2. During the forty-fifth session held in June/July 2014, an update on the work was given in informal document INF.41, and as noted in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/90, paragraph 85:

“A group met informally during breaks to discuss this informal document. A lunch time working group session should take place during the next session of the Sub-Committee on Monday 1 December 2014.”

## Update

3. In the most recent discussions held during the forty-fifth session, the working group agreed to the following:

- (a) Regarding the objective to enhance recognition of UN pressure receptacles:
  - The working group will identify and explain issues, but not make specific recommendations for implementing outside of the framework of the UN Sub-Committee. The draft action plan document will be revised accordingly by the working group chair.
  - It would be helpful to have a table comparing existing national and regional systems for approvals, for the manufacture as well as the periodic inspection and test of UN pressure receptacles. The European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA) will begin drafting such a table.
- (b) Regarding the objective to facilitate the import/export of filled non-UN pressure receptacles:
  - The information in the draft action plan document will be re-organised into a table comparing existing national and regional requirements for filling, emptying, transport, import, export, etc.
- (c) Regarding the objective to consider expediting provisions for liquids and solids:
  - The working group will focus first on the other two objectives.

4. The aforementioned draft documents will be circulated among the working group, before the forty-sixth session.

## Proposal

5. As noted during the previous session (see paragraph 2 above), it is proposed that a lunchtime working group session take place during this session of the Sub-Committee on Monday 1 December 2014, for the working group on global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles to continue discussions and to agree on next steps. If scheduling for the session precludes this, it is then proposed that this working group meet at lunchtime on an alternate day during the first week of this session (1-5 December 2014).

6. In informal document INF.14 (42<sup>nd</sup> session), paragraph 8, when proposing that this work item be added to the programme of work for this biennium, it was recognised that “it is...possible that such work cannot be completed within a single biennium.” Therefore, depending on the status of the work and the outcome of the discussion at this session, the Sub-Committee should consider if the issue of global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles should continue in the programme of work for the next biennium.