



---

**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 7 of the provisional agenda

**New proposals for amendments to the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****Definition of vehicle in special provision 240****Transmitted by the expert from France<sup>1</sup>**

1. The Sub-Committee has adopted a definition of vehicle in special provision 240 to clarify what may be transported under UN No. 3171 and what must be assigned to UN No. 3091 or UN No. 3481 when powered by a lithium battery.
2. The definition reads as follows:  
“Vehicles are self-propelled apparatus designed to carry one or more persons or goods. Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, e-bikes, wheel-chairs, lawn tractors, boats and aircraft.”
3. In practice small size vehicles under this definition are often transported in a packaging mainly for product quality reasons. Therefore it has happened that some doubts occurred during inspections that these were matching the definition of vehicle (UN No. 3171) or should be considered as battery contained in an equipment (UN No. 3091 or UN No. 3481)
4. It is also common practice that, to allow this packaging operation that some parts of the vehicle are detached from its main frame, for example handle bars or wheels. Pictures illustrating common industry practice are annexed to this document.

---

<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).

5. The expert from France believes that there are no safety reasons for considering a small vehicle (for example an e bike or a wheel chair) transported packaged, even with some parts detached to allow it to fit into the packaging, in a different manner than a non packaged vehicle. On the contrary the packaging, even if not primarily intended for that purpose, adds a certain level of safety. To avoid abuses this should however only be applicable where the vehicle in its entirety is contained in the package transported.
6. To clarify this situation the expert from France proposes the following modification to special provision 240:

## **Proposal**

7. Modify the second paragraph in special provision 240 to read as follows (new text underlined):

“For the purpose of this special provision, vehicles are self-propelled apparatus designed to carry one or more persons or goods. Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, e-bikes, wheel-chairs, lawn tractors, boats and aircraft. This includes vehicles transported in a packaging provided the packaging contains the entirety of the vehicle. In this case some parts of the vehicle may be detached from its frame to fit into the packaging.”

Annex

[English only]



