



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

Fifty-eighth session

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Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda

Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Other miscellaneous proposals

Inclusion of a note to 1.1.1.7 to ensure consistent interpretation

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom*

Summary

1. The United Kingdom submitted a proposal to the March 2021 Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. This was for a note to be added to RID/ADR/ADN 1.1.5 relating to the application of standards to help ensure consistent interpretation and was adopted by the Joint Meeting.
2. In recognition of the need for alignment with 1.1.1.7 of the Model Regulations which contains the same text, the United Kingdom agreed to submit a proposal to include the note in the equivalent text of the UN Model Regulations for the consideration of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

Background

3. Following discussions within the Working Group on Tanks at the September 2020 session of the Joint Meeting the United Kingdom reflected on the requirements in RID/ADR/ADN 1.1.5. At the meeting, it was noted that other contracting states / parties appeared to have a slightly different interpretation of these requirements compared to that of the United Kingdom, which we believed to be due to slightly different interpretations of the various language versions.
4. The difference in interpretation we believe concerned the use of the word “conflict” which is used in the English language version of RID/ADR/ADN 1.1.5. In the opinion of the United Kingdom, RID/ADR/ADN 1.1.5 would better reflect the intention if the word “conflict” were to be replaced by the word “contradict”. This would make it clear in the English language version that referenced standards can apply additional requirements over and above those in RID/ADR/ADN.

* A/75/6 (Sect.20), para. 20.51

5. A discussion on replacing the word “conflict” with “contradict” took place at an inter-sessional meeting of an informal working group of the Joint Meeting on 18 December 2020. Many delegates were content with the term “conflict” as this translated well, but a consensus emerged that it would be helpful to add a note indicating that a standard could include requirements that enhance or supplement those set out in RID/ADR/ADN.

6. The United Kingdom therefore submitted a proposal to the March 2021 session of Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. After discussion the Joint Meeting adopted the following note to RID/ADR/ADN 1.1.5 to help ensure consistent interpretation.

“NOTE: A standard provides details on how to meet the provisions of RID/ADR/ADN and may include requirements in addition to those set out in RID/ADR/ADN.”

Proposal

7. To ensure alignment between RID/ADR/ADN and the UN Model Regulations, insert the following note to 1.1.1.7 of the UN Model Regulations:

“NOTE: A standard provides details on how to meet the provisions of these Regulations and may include requirements in addition to those set out in these Regulations.”
