Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
Geneva, 21 September – 1 October 2021
Item 4 of the provisional agenda
Harmonization with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Description of the hazard of Class 9

Transmitted by the Secretariat of OTIF*. **

Introduction

1. In the 2011 edition of RID/ADR/ADN, provisions for environmentally hazardous substances were included in 2.2.9.1.10. This harmonized with the sixteenth revised edition of the UN Model Regulations.

2. In the ad hoc working group on the harmonization of RID/ADR/ADN with the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Geneva, 18 - 20 May 2009), one of the questions discussed was whether, in connection with the inclusion of the provisions for environmentally hazardous substances, the title of Class 9 also had to be adapted as in the UN Model Regulations. The following extract of paragraphs 12 and 13 from document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2009/16 reproduces this discussion:

   Title of Class 9

   12. There was no consensus on the change to the title of Class 9 consisting of adding the words "including environmentally hazardous substances".

   13. It was underlined that RID/ADR/ADN differed from the UN Model Regulations since all dangerous goods hazardous to the environment had to be identified as such in RID/ADR/ADN, and not only those belonging to Class 9. It was agreed to place these words between square brackets.

3. The RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (Berne, 8 - 11 September 2009, and Geneva, 14 - 18 September 2009) decided not to include the addition "including environmentally hazardous substances" in the title of Class 9 (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/116, paragraph 62).

* A/75/6 (Sect.20), para 20.51.
** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2021/28.
4. In the context of harmonisation with the twentieth revised edition of the UN Model Regulations, the danger labels were listed in tabular form in 5.2.2.2.2 of the 2019 edition of RID/ADR/ADN. In doing so, the descriptions of the hazards of the individual classes were taken over unchanged from the UN Model Regulations. Unlike the title of Class 9, the description of the Class 9 hazard in 5.2.2.2.2 therefore contains the addition "including environmentally hazardous substances".

Proposal

5. It is proposed that in view of the Joint Meeting’s previous decisions, the description of the Class 9 hazard in 5.2.2.2.2 be adapted as follows:

5.2.2.2.2 In the table, delete the following words from the subheading “Class 9 hazard”:

“; including environmentally hazardous substances”.

[does not concern the German version]