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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****Fifty-ninth session**

Geneva, 29 November – 8 December 2021

Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the Model Regulations****on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: packagings, including the use of recycled plastics material****Adding a note in 6.1.4.12.1 of the UN Model Regulations****Transmitted by the expert from China\*****Introduction**

1. The UN Model Regulations are minimum requirements to be observed in the international transport of dangerous goods for all modes of transport. The objective is to ensure the safety, the property of people and the protection of environment. The UN Model Regulations are available in English, French, Russian, Arabic, Spanish and Chinese language versions. English and French versions are original ones, while all other linguistic versions are considered as translations of the original English and/or French versions. But translations cannot always interpret accurately the meaning of certain words due to differences between languages and cultural backgrounds. For example, in Chinese, the translations of “fibreboard” and “corrugated fibreboard” are two independent conceptions. One do not include the other, and vice versa.

2. At its fifty-seventh session, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods clarified that the wording “fibreboard boxes” in 6.1.4.12 of the UN Model Regulations include “corrugated fibreboard boxes” (see paragraph 78 of report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/114). But it is clarified only at the Sub-Committee level and China cannot find in any other published international regulation or international standard that “fibreboard” includes “corrugated fibreboard”. In line with the principle of respect for the original text, it is difficult to reflect the actual meaning in the UN Model Regulations after translation into other languages on the basis of the English and/or French versions of the UN Model Regulations and the value of the UN Model Regulations might be compromised.

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

## **Proposal**

3. The expert from China invites Sub-Committee to further discuss the issues.
4. China hopes that Sub-Committee could agree to add in 6.1.4.12.1 a new note to read as follows:

**"NOTE:** *The wording "fibreboard box" includes "corrugated fibreboard box".*"

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