

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

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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN:
new proposals

Transport of packaged waste in combined packaging

Transmitted by European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services (FEAD)

Introduction

1. ADR 4.1.1.5.1 foresees certain variations of inner packaging without further testing of the outer packaging.
2. ADR 6.1.5.1.7 determines specific testing rules for outer packaging with variations of inner packagings.
3. Original products are packed in a combined packaging, specifically tested for that purpose (see ADR 6.1.5). For waste collection, often only the inner packaging remains available (see pictures). This waste must be sorted, according to its hazardous properties, and be packed fulfilling all the requirements of the ADR.
4. The variations foreseen under 4.1.1.5.1 and even the provisions in 6.1.5.1.7 are too strict for the waste management as the existing variations of inner packaging are much wider as those foreseen under 4.1.1.5.1 or the packaging cannot be correctly used in accordance with the certification under 6.1.5.1.7. Also, for safety reasons it is not realistic to repack each single packaging containing waste. Hence, there is a lack of a simple legal solution available to replace the missing outer packaging.
5. In the absence of applicable rules in the ADR, some countries have developed their national derogations to provide solutions for the waste management. Therefore, there is a need for harmonised rules that ensure a level playing field between countries and allow for international transports.
6. The following pictures show situations faced daily by the waste management sector:



Fig.1: unsorted waste offered for disposal



Fig. 2: university laboratory waste offered for disposal

Proposal

7. Following discussions within the Informal Working Group on the Transport of Hazardous Waste at the meeting held on 15 and 16 June 2022 in The Hague (and online), FEAD suggests adding 4.1.1.5.3:

“4.1.1.5.3 In the case of waste classified under 2.1.3.5.5, mixed inner packaging in one outer packaging shall comply with the following provisions:

- i. An outer packaging tested for solids is also allowed to be used for combined packaging, without further testing requirements for the inner packagings;
- ii. The outer packaging shall be tested for packaging group I;
- iii. In derogation from 4.1.1.5.1 inner packaging of different sizes and shapes and materials are allowed provided that the outer packaging can be properly closed;
- iv. 6.1.5.1.7, alinea c is not applicable, meaning that inner packaging of different sizes and shapes and materials are allowed provided that the outer packaging can be properly closed;
- v. Sufficient cushioning and absorbent material are used to take up void spaces and leakages, and to prevent significant movement of the inner packagings;
- vi. For packaging with codes 1H2, 3H2 and 4H2, proof of sufficient chemical compatibility is deemed to have been provided if the compatibility of the material with the respective standard liquids has been verified as part of a design test and approval for packaging with code 1H1 or 3H1;
- vii. 4.1.10.4 is not applicable provided that packagings presenting a risk or a subsidiary risk of Class 5.1 are not packed together with other packagings in the same outer packaging;
- viii. On the basis of the knowledge of the composition of the waste and the physical and chemical properties of the identified components, the waste contained in one outer packaging is assigned to the most appropriate UN collective entry describing those properties.”

8. Add a new paragraph 5.4.1.1.xx to read as follows:

“5.4.1.1.xx *Special provision for the transport of waste in combined packaging*

For carriage in accordance with 4.1.1.5.3, a statement shall be included in the transport document, as follows "Transport in accordance with 4.1.1.5.3". ”

Justification

9. Other obligations under the ADR remain applicable, in particular 4.1.1.6. The proposal is based on the knowledge and practice acquired by the waste management sector in the past twenty years in different countries.



Fig. 3: example of sorted waste for disposal



Fig. 4: sorted waste (inner packaging in an outer packaging)