
Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

18 November 2022

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Sixty-first session

Geneva, 28 November - 6 December 2022

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the Model Regulations

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Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

Introduction

1. The topic of implementation of the Model Regulations was added to the agenda at the fifty-seventh session of the Sub-Committee based on informal document INF.25 (57th session).
2. The Model Regulations are structured to allow uniform development of national regulations thereby contributing to global harmonization. Technical progress and the development of new dangerous goods list entries lead to modifications in each edition of the Model Regulations. National bodies update their respective regulations on varying schedules according to applicable mandatory procedures. Inconsistent regulations create logistical and compliance challenges for stakeholders in multimodal transport or border crossings and may in some instances lead to frustrated shipments which incur unnecessary costs or delivery delays of critical medical or other quality of life commodities.
3. Recognizing that individuals who offer for transport and transport dangerous goods across the world often inquire about the status of implementation of the Model Regulations and look for points of contact within the various competent authorities within the world; the experts from the United States of America would like to share with the Sub-Committee work they have done to consolidate information concerning points of contact for competent authorities and information on the version of the Model Regulations that have been implemented in each country. This paper supports sustainable development goal 6, “peace, justice, and strong institutions.” Specifically, the proposal supports target 16.6 to “develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.”

Discussion

4. Information concerning the implementation of the UN Model Regulations and competent authorities for the transport of dangerous goods, provided via an interactive layered map, may be accessed at <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/international-program/international-list-competent-authorities-andor-contacts-transport-dangerous-goods>.
5. This information has been gathered from sources believed to be reliable and accurate at the time of publication such as publicly available lists of competent authorities published by the IMO and the UN secretariat concerning ADR competent authorities. Much of the

information concerning the implementation of the Model Regulations has been gleaned from information reported by the secretariat to the Economic and Social Council.

6. It is believed that providing this information in an easily accessible manner will help stakeholders understand the various regulatory frameworks that exist around the world and provide one location for finding competent authority points of contact for dangerous goods transport issues. The information provided on the website is continually updated and we welcome any ideas for collaboration with the secretariat or other bodies to ensure correct information is maintained.

Proposal

7. Review the information available through the link and provide any comments on ways to improve the information collection, dissemination, and collaboration with the secretariat.
