Standardisation of ADR driver exams

Transmitted by the International Road Transport Union (IRU)*

Summary

Executive summary: For standardisation of ADR driver exams, it is required to create a Catalogue of questions. This is the way to set and maintain the minimum quality level of driver training and assessment in ADR Contracting Parties.

Actions to be taken: It is required to create an informal working group for developing the Catalogue of questions.

* A/78/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.5.
I. Introduction

1. Training and assessing ADR drivers is crucial to ensure and maintain the safety in dangerous goods transport. There are provisions for training and examination of drivers in the ADR, but the content of the exam is not standardised.

2. A possible solution for this issue is to create a Catalogue of questions. An actual theoretical exam sheet should contain questions selected from this catalogue.

II. Background

3. In some Contracting parties that have joined the ADR recently, the ADR training and examination is not well-developed. However, the ADR certificates issued by the competent authority of any ADR country are valid in the whole territory of the ADR.

4. The level of the ADR exams in ADR countries are different; therefore, an exam-tourism is developed for the drivers to visit other countries to find an easier way pass the ADR exam.

5. Countries that plan to sign the Agreement in the future do not have any guideline or standard about the minimum quality of the content of the ADR driver exams.

III. Proposal

6. Contracting parties should create a Catalogue of question that can be used for creating exam sheets for ADR driver exams. By this way, the level of the exams can be standardised; therefore, the knowledge of the drivers who have ADR driver certificate will be similar in any ADR countries.

7. The IRU is ready to deal with this topic. It is recommended to establish an informal working group on this topic. Suggestions and ideas for the possible solutions are more than welcome from any participants of the meeting.

IV. Justification

8. The Catalogue of questions exists for the qualifying exam of ADN experts. This catalogue is used in ADN countries. This catalogue is well-developed and periodically amended following the biennial amendments of the ADN.

9. The IRU deals with certifications of training centres in many countries. Some of these countries are contracting parties of the ADR, while others plan to sign the ADR Agreement in the near future. Therefore, the IRU has an extensive view on the level of ADR trainings and examination in different countries.