

**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

18 June 2024

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Item 2 (h) of the provisional agenda

Explosives and related matters:

Miscellaneous

**Comments in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/38 –
“Termination time and method of assessing results for the
methyl violet paper test in appendix 10 of the Manual of
Tests and Criteria”**

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

1. In the opinion of the expert from the United Kingdom, if the violet paper has not turned completely salmon pink at 30 minutes the test can be considered complete and therefore stopped. We are therefore neutral on Proposal 1 (the instruction to stop the test at 40 minutes if the papers haven't turned completely salmon pink). However, if the Explosives Working Group feels it would help non-native English speakers, then we believe the proposal is worthwhile.

2. With respect to Proposal 2, in the opinion of the United Kingdom expert, Option 2 appears to be more in line with the described test method i.e. the point regarding interpretation of 'test time' vs real time is more valid, especially given the instruction to check colours at 5-minute intervals. However, the suggestion is made that A10.3.4.4 should instead read as follows (new text is **bold and underlined**, removed text ~~struck through~~):

“A10.3.4.4 The test is considered “+” and the substance is classified unstable if the test paper completely changes colour in ~~less than~~ **30 min or less**. If the colour change exceeds 30 min the result is “-“ and the substance is classified as stable.”