

## 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

27 June 2024

Sixty-fourth session

Geneva, 24 June-3 July 2024

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing

### Amending the Guiding Principles in alignment with the adopted amendments to UN 2956 MUSK XYLENE

Transmitted by the expert from Germany

#### Introduction

1. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) informed the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (informal document [INF.17](#), sixty-second session) about the detected discrepancy between the IMDG Code and the *Model Regulations* concerning the provision for limited quantities for UN 2956 MUSK XYLENE.
2. At the sixty-fourth session, Germany presented document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/22 - Modification of the limited quantity for UN 2956 MUSK XYLENE and the proposed amendments were adopted by the Sub-Committee. In addition, it was agreed that Germany would produce a subsequent informal document to provide the necessary amendments to the *Guiding Principles* that reflect the changes made by the amendments to UN 2956.

#### I. Discussion

3. In document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/22 Germany illustrated the explosive properties of musk xylene if over-confined in packagings and the necessity for a special packaging even in transport of small amounts to avoid the explosive behavior.
4. P409 packing instructions is assigned to the following UN numbers:  
UN 2956 5-tert-BUTYL-2,4,6-TRINITRO-m-XYLENE (MUSK XYLENE);  
UN 3242 AZODICARBONAMIDE; and  
UN 3251 ISOSORBIDE-5-MONONITRATE.
5. Special provision (SP) 133 is exclusively assigned to UN 2956 MUSK XYLENE in the *Model Regulations*.  
SP 133 reads as follows: "If over-confined in packagings, this substance may exhibit explosive behaviour. Packagings authorized under packing instruction P409 are intended to prevent over-confinement. When a packaging other than those prescribed under packing instruction P409 is authorized by the competent authority of the country of origin in accordance with 4.1.3.7, the package shall bear an "EXPLOSIVE" subsidiary hazard label (Model No. 1, see 5.2.2.2.2) unless the competent authority of the country of origin has permitted this label to be dispensed with for the specific packaging employed because test data have proved that the substance in this packaging does not exhibit explosive behaviour (see 5.4.1.5.5.1). The provisions of 7.1.3.1 shall also be considered."
6. Since UN 2956 MUSK XYLENE is the only one of the mentioned substances that may exhibit explosive behavior if over-confined in packagings, SP 133 is assigned only to UN 2956.

## II. Proposals

### Proposal 1

7. Amend note *e* under Table 3.4 in the *Guiding Principles* (new text is underlined, deleted text in ~~strike through~~):

“*e* UN Nos. 2304, 2448, ~~and~~ 3176 (molten substances) and 2956: not permitted.”

### Proposal 2

8. Amend note *d* under Table 3.5.1 in the *Guiding Principles* (new text is underlined, deleted text in ~~strike through~~) (red: UN numbers that should also not be transported as excepted quantities according to the *Model Regulations*, but are not subject to working document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/22):

“*d* Self-reactive substances, polymerizing substances, desensitized explosives, UN Nos. 2304, 2448, 3176 (molten substances), 2956, [~~3242, 3251~~,] 3360 and 3527 shall not be transported as excepted quantities.”

---