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

Twelfth session Geneva, 6 December 2024 Item 1 of the provisional agenda **Adoption of the agenda**

Provisional agenda and annotations for the twelfth session*, **

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 2.30 p.m. on Friday 6 December 2024

I. Provisional agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Election of the officers.
- 3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council.
- 4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2023 2024.
- 5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2023 2024.
- 6. Programme of work for the biennium 2024 2025:
 - (a) Programme of work and related proposals;
 - (b) Calendar of meetings.

^{*} All documentation for the session will be made available online at: https://unece.org/info/Transport/Dangerous-Goods/events/387249. This will be a paperless meeting. Printed documents will not be available in the meeting room.

^{**} Participation will only be possible for registered delegates. All participants wishing to attend the session shall register in INDICO at the following address: https://indico.un.org/event/1004869/. Delegates should, upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Access procedures have now reverted to standard, allowing entry for all users including blue badge holders, and conference participants using digital badges. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 75028). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, refer to: https://unece.org/practical-information-delegates.

- 7. Draft resolution 2025/... of the Economic and Social Council.
- 8. Work of the Economic and Social Council.
- 9. Any other business.
- 10. Adoption of the report.

II. Background information

Status and membership

1. The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council and was previously known as the "Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods". It was reconfigured by the Economic and Social Council's resolution 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, with two sub-committees (see also document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/7):

- (a) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee);
- (b) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee).

2. Since its reconfiguration, the Committee held eleven sessions as follows. All sessions were held in Geneva:

- (a) First session: 11– 12 December 2002 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/29 and Add.1 and 2);
- (b) Second session: 10 December 2004 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/32 and Add.1-3 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (c) Third session: 15 December 2006 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/34 and Add.1–3, Add.1/Corr.1, Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (d) Fourth session, 12 December 2008 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/36 and Corr.1, and Add.1-3, Add.1/Corr.1–3 and Add.2/Corr.1);
- (e) Fifth session: 10 December 2010 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/38 and Add.1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1);
- (f) Sixth session: 14 December 2012 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/40 and Add.1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.3/Corr.1 and 2);
- (g) Seventh session: 12 December 2014 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/42 and Add.1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (h) Eighth session: 9 December 2016 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/44 and 44/Corr.1 and Add.1-3);
- (i) Ninth session: 7 December 2018 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/46 and Add.1-3);
- (j) Tenth session: 11 December 2020 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/48 and Add.1-3);

(k) Eleventh session: 9 December 2022 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/50 and Add.1-3).

3. Pursuant to the Economic and Social Council's decisions 2001/201B, 2002/201C, 2003/201D, 2005/201C, 2008/201C, 2009/201C, 2010/201B and 2010/201E the membership of the Committee is 40, as follows:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czechia, Denmark¹, Finland, France, Germany, Greece¹, India², Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland¹, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico², Morocco², Netherlands, New Zealand¹, Nigeria¹, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar¹, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal¹, Serbia¹, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland², Ukraine¹, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia¹.

Documentation

4. The documentation relating to the Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/...

5. The documentation relating to the TDG Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/...

6. The documentation relating to the GHS Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/...

7. Documents are issued in English and French only, which are the working languages of the secretariat.

8. All documents are available on the website of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)³, whose secretariat provides the secretariat services for the Committee.

Interpretation

9. Interpretation during the session will be provided in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Rules of procedure

10. In accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, Chapters VI and VIII to XII of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council apply to the proceedings of the Committee and of its sub-committees (refer also to documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/1 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/6).

Mandate

11. In accordance with resolution 1999/65, the mandate of the Committee is to deal with strategic issues rather than technical issues. It is not envisaged that it would review, change or revisit technical recommendations of the sub-committees.

¹ Committee and GHS Sub-Committee only.

² Committee and TDG Sub-Committee only.

³ https://unece.org/transport/dangerous-goods.

- 12. Its main functions are:
 - (a) To approve the work programmes of the sub-committees in the light of available resources;
 - (b) To coordinate strategic and policy directions in areas of shared interests and overlap;
 - (c) To give formal endorsement to the recommendations of the sub-committees and provide the mechanism for channelling them to the Economic and Social Council;
 - (d) Facilitate and coordinate the smooth running of the sub-committees.

Timetable

13. The length of the session has been limited to half a day. It will be preceded by the sixty-fifth session of the TDG Sub-Committee (25 November - 3 December 2024) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/129 and Add.1) and the forty-seventh session of the GHS Sub-Committee (4 – 6 (morning) December 2024) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/93 and Add.1).

III. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

14. In accordance with the established practice, the first item on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Election of officers

15. In accordance with the established practice, the Committee shall elect one President and one or several vice-presidents from among the representatives of its members.

3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

16. The resolution of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the programme of work of the Committee during the biennium 2023–2024 is resolution 2023/5 of 19 June 2023 (E/RES/2023/5).

4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2023-2024

17. The reports of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second, sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions are contained in documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/124, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/126 and Add.1; and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/128 and Add.1. Taking into account the global recovery from impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations Office in Geneva returned back to in-person meetings. Therefore, the sessions of the Sub-Committee were held again as an in-person meeting only.

18. The list of draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations and Manual of Tests and Criteria adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/58.

19. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's sixty-fifth session (25 November-3 December 2024) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its sixty-fifth session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or in the draft form prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/R.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2024/R.4 and addenda for changes to the consolidated list of draft amendments). The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2023–2024

20. The reports of the GHS Sub-Committee on its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions have been issued as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/88, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/90, and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/92. Following the global recovery from impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sessions of the Sub-Committee were held again as an in-person meeting only.

21. The list of draft amendments to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/11.

22. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's forty-seventh session (4-6 December 2024) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its forty-seventh session will be made available to the Committee in the draft form prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/R.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/R.4 and addenda for the consolidated list of draft amendments). The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2025–2026

(a) Programme of work and related proposals

23. The Committee should consider the proposals made by the TDG and the GHS Sub-Committees at their December 2024 sessions for their respective programmes of work and approve them in the light of resources available for 2025–2026.

(b) Calendar of meetings

24. The total number of meeting days allocated to the Committee and its sub-committees by the Economic and Social Council for a biennium is 38 days (i.e. 76 meetings of three-hour duration). On the basis of the experience from previous biennia, the following dates have been provisionally scheduled by the secretariat for 2025–2026:

2025

30 June – 4 July 2025	TDG Sub-Committee (66 th session)
7 – 9 (morning) July 2025	GHS Sub-Committee (48 th session)
24 November – 3 (morning) December 2025	TDG Sub-Committee (67 th session)
3 (afternoon) – 5 December 2025	GHS Sub-Committee (49th session)

2026

29 June – 8 (morning) July 2026	TDG Sub-Committee (68th session)
8 (afternoon) -10 July 2026	GHS Sub-Committee (50 th session)
23 November – 1 December 2026	TDG Sub-Committee (69th session)
2-4 (morning) December 2026	GHS Sub-Committee (51st session)
4 (afternoon) December 2026	TDG-GHS Committee (13th session)

25. The Committee may wish to consider the allocation of meetings for each subcommittee depending on their respective programmes of work.

7. Draft resolution 2025/... of the Economic and Social Council

26. The Committee may wish to note that both sub-committees will have prepared their own contribution to the draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2025 session. The Committee should combine the two parts and adopt the draft resolution to be submitted to the Council.

8. Work of the Economic and Social Council

27. The Committee may wish to note the programme of work of the Economic and Social Council and consider the feedback from both sub-committees.

9. Any other business

28. At the time of writing, there is no issue under this agenda item.

10. Adoption of the report

29. The Committee should adopt the report on its eleventh session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.