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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**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

**Fifty-third session**

Geneva, 25 June-4 July 2018  
Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda

Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the   
Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods:  
other miscellaneous proposals

Inconsistencies in section 1.1.1.2 (a) between language versions

Transmitted by the expert from the Netherlands[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

Introduction

1. During discussion on the scope of the Model Regulations, an inconsistency in section 1.1.1.2 (a) between the different language versions was pointed out.

2. The terms ‘*means of transport*’and ‘*engin de transport*’ have been used in section 1.1.1.2 of the English and French versions of the Model Regulations, respectively, since at least the twelth edition (2001).

3. In the sixteenth edition (2009), the French term ‘*engin de transport*’ was defined as ‘*un véhicule citerne ou véhicule routier de transport de marchandises, un wagon citerne ou wagon de merchandises, un conteneur multimodal ou une citerne mobile multimodale, ou un CGEM’* which describes what in English falls under the term ‘*cargo transport unit*’.

4. This difference in terminology use is a problem because the scope of the Model Regulations is inconsistent between the language versions. In French, section 1.1.1.2 (a) states that the Model Regulations are not applicable to ‘*engin de transport*’ whereas the English Model Regulations do not refer to a ‘*cargo transport unit*’ but to the ‘*means of transport*’. The expert of the Netherlands has unfortunately been unable to fully check which terms are used in the Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian language versions.

5. Although ‘*means of transport*’ is not defined in the Model Regulations, the expert from the Netherlands believes that the intention of 1.1.1.2 (a) and the accompanying note 3 is to exclude from the scope of the Model Regulations those dangerous goods necessary for the propulsion of road vehicles, trains, airplanes and ships as well as dangerous goods necessary for the operation of the specialized equipment of road vehicles, trains, airplanes or ships, while these are performing the transport operation. Using a term equivalent to a ‘cargo transport unit’ in 1.1.1.2 (a) seems odd since the definition of cargo transport unit does not include airplanes or ships.

Proposal

6. The expert of the Netherlands believes that clarity is needed on which term to use in 1.1.1.2 (a). In this context, the term ‘means of transport’ seems more appropriate than ‘cargo transport unit’. Therefore, the expert of the Netherlands proposes to align the French language version with the English language version, and entrust the secretariat with aligning the other language versions accordingly.

1. \* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2017–2018 approved by the Committee at its eighth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/100, paragraph 98 and ST/SG/AC.10/44, para. 14). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)