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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

(Twenty-first session, 1-10 July 2002,
agenda item 4)

Comments of the Netherlands with respect to document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/30

It is with great interest that we have read the proposal from the United Kingdom with respect to the carriage of infectious substances in bulk.

After consulting the competent authorities about this matter there are some comments that the Netherlands would like to make with respect to the proposal.

The Dutch authorities involved in this aspect and whose comments are taken into account in this document are:

- Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Watermanagement
- Transport Inspectorate Netherlands
- Inspectorate for Health Protection and Veterinary Public Health
- Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Fishery

General comment (content)

In general the question has risen whether it is necessary to make a special arrangement for the (intermodal) transport of infectious substances in bulk concerning animal carcasses, while large-distance transport of animal carcasses is an exceptional case. It does not seem desirable to create an arrangement that makes it possible to (intermodal) transport animal carcasses across borders on a regular basis. Preferably animal carcasses should be destructed in the direct region.

General comment (content)

In general the question has also risen whether it is advisable to make an arrangement for the transport of infectious substances in bulk concerning medical waste, while medical waste should be destructed within a short period of time. To carry it in bulk implies that it would be stored during a longer period inside medical institutions which is not desirable.

Comment (editorial)

In the proposed Model regulations paragraph 4.3.2.4. is reserved for the transport of goods of class 7. If the UK proposal for the transport of infectious substances in bulk would be accepted by the meeting, it will be more convenient to use 4.3.2.6 for the proposed new paragraph.
