

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-fifth session, 5-14 July 2004
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

DANGEROUS GOODS PACKED IN LIMITED QUANTITIES

Comments on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/44

Transmitted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

The ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) held its 19th meeting in Montreal from 27 October to 7 November 2003. The primary purpose of the meeting was to finalize the content of the 2005-2006 edition of the ICAO Technical Instructions.

During the meeting the Chairman of the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods presented to the Panel the report of the meeting of Sub-Committee's Working Group on Limited Quantities. The Working Group meeting was held in Ottawa, 22 – 24 October 2003.

The report of the DGP/19 meeting on this issue states:

"2.2.3.2 It was agreed that ICAO and the DGP should take a constructive role in this process to ensure that the air mode's position was clearly stated. Time did not allow the DGP/19 meeting to study the report in depth. It was however evident that there were significant differences between the views of the air mode and the surface modes on this subject. Some other modes went so far as to question the need for limited quantity provisions whereas they were of great importance in the air mode. Moreover, there were also differences between the views of DGP members on the subject. It was agreed that there was a need for a review of the Technical Instructions provisions concerning limited quantities, but it was difficult to see how this could be done in time to present a unified air mode position to the UNSCETDG before its meeting in December 2004, at which time it would probably finalize its recommendations.

2.2.3.3 It was therefore agreed that DGP members should study the report after DGP/19 and discuss it with other members as far as possible. They would also, whenever possible, make sure that their national UNSCETDG members were made aware of the air mode's views on the matter. Members should also communicate their views to the Secretary in time for an air mode position to be put before the UNSCETDG meeting in July 2004."

It should be noted that the Panel members have not been able to provide comments on the report of the Ottawa Working Group Meeting or on the formal paper developed by the Experts from France and Canada.

The Working Group as a Whole will meet in October 2004 and it is anticipated that the formal paper from France and Canada as well as any decisions taken at this July 2004 meeting of the Sub-Committee will be discussed.

Following the October 2004 meeting, the Working Group as a Whole should be able to provide the Sub-Committee with the views of the air mode for the Sub-Committee's meeting in December 2004.
