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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-eighth session, 28 November-7 December 2005
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

Class 3 Flammable liquids

Classification criteria

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

Introduction

1. The expert from the United Kingdom has noticed what appears to be an anomaly in the classification criteria for viscous substances of Class 3, presumably resulting from an oversight in updating the Model Regulations in the past.
2. In 2.3.2.5 viscous substances which:
 - have a flash point of 23 °C or above and less than or equal to 60 °C;
 - are not toxic or corrosive;
 - contain not more than 20% nitrocellulose provided the nitrocellulose contains not more than 12.6% nitrogen by dry mass; and
 - are packed in receptacles of less than 450 l capacityare not subject to the Model Regulations if they also meet the provisions of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of 2.3.2.5.
3. However, such a viscous substance which meets all of these criteria above and which does not meet the classification criteria of 2.9.3 environmentally hazardous substances (aquatic

environment) would still need to meet the requirements of the Model Regulations because it has not been specifically excluded. Thus it would appear that a substance that meets the flammability criteria, but is not toxic or corrosive, will not be regulated but that a substance meeting the flammability criteria but is not environmentally hazardous will be. It appears to the expert from the United Kingdom that this is not logical and probably results from an oversight on his part in not identifying a necessary consequential amendment when new criteria for environmentally hazardous substances were adopted in the 12th edition of the Model Regulations. It is now proposed to rectify that oversight.

Proposal

4. It is proposed to amend the second indent of 2.3.2.5 as follows:

“ - are not toxic, corrosive or environmentally hazardous;”
