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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

Thirty-fourth session
Geneva, 1-9 December 2008
Item 8 of the provisional agenda

**HARMONIZATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)
REGULATIONS FOR THE SAFE TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL**

Revision to Special Provision 290

Transmitted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA)¹

Introduction

1. At the thirty-second session of the Sub-Committee in December 2007 there was discussion regarding the application of Special Provision 290 for radioactive material in excepted packages presenting a hazard in another class or division (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/64 paragraphs 66 to 68).
2. IATA subsequently raised the issue of radioactive material in excepted packages presenting a hazard in another class or division at the meeting of the IAEA Transport Safety Standards Committee 16th meeting (TRANSSC 16) that took place in March 2008.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2007-2008 approved by the Committee at its third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60, para. 100 and ST/SG/AC.10/34, para. 14) (routine listing and classification)

3. The paper submitted by IATA to TRANSSC 16 proposed that the quantity of the substance, volume or mass, should determine its classification. Where the quantity is in excess of the limits permitted for dangerous goods in excepted quantities as set out in Chapter 3.5, then the material should be classified as other than Class 7 and the requirements of SP 290 apply, but where the quantity of material is within the limits prescribed in Chapter 3.5, then the classification as a radioactive excepted package would prevail.

4. The representative of the United Kingdom at TRANSSC supported the IATA position with respect to substances that meet the provisions of Chapter 3.5 being treated as excepted packages of radioactive material. Accordingly proposals to revise Special Provision 290 are set out below.

Proposal

5. Revise Special Provision 290 as follows:

290 When this material meets the definitions and criteria of other classes or divisions as defined in Part 2, it shall be classified in accordance with the following:

- (a) Where the substance meets the criteria for dangerous goods in excepted quantities as set out in Chapter 3.5, the packagings shall be in accordance with 3.5.2 and meet the testing requirements of 3.5.3. All other requirements applicable to radioactive material, excepted packages as set out in 1.5.1.5 shall apply without reference to the other class or division;
- (b) Where quantity exceeds the limits specified in 3.5.1.2 the substance shall be classified in accordance with the predominant subsidiary risk. The dangerous goods transport document shall describe the substance with the UN number and proper shipping name applicable to the other class supplemented with the name applicable to the radioactive excepted package according to Column 2 in the Dangerous Goods List of Chapter 3.2, and shall be transported in accordance with the provisions applicable to that UN number. An example of the information shown on the dangerous goods transport document is:

UN 1993, Flammable liquid, n.o.s. (ethanol and toluene mixture),
Radioactive material, excepted package – limited quantity of material,
Class 3, PG II

[The marking on the package shall also reflect the UN number and complete proper shipping name supplemented with the name applicable to the radioactive excepted package as shown on the dangerous goods transport document.] In addition, the requirements of 2.7.2.4.1 shall apply.
