
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Eighty-fifth session
Geneva, 28-31 October 2008
Agenda item 5

PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO ANNEXES A AND B OF ADR

Instructions in writing and the marking for environmentally hazardous substances

Transmitted by the Government of Sweden

Introduction

A new marking for environmentally hazardous substances will be introduced in the next editions of ADR and RID (fish and tree), due to a decision taken at the Joint meeting in September 2007.


During the discussions that took place at that meeting (reflected in the report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/108, paragraphs 55-64), it was expressed that a marking is advisable in view of measures to be taken in case of spillage, indicating that the substance is an aquatic pollutant. For this reason, Sweden would like to propose adding this marking in the table in sub-section 5.4.3.4; "Additional guidance to members of the vehicle crew on the hazard characteristics of dangerous goods by class and on actions subject to prevailing circumstances".

Since our attention is focused on this new marking, Sweden would like to raise another question related to this matter. In the aforementioned report from the Joint meeting, there seems to be some indication that work is ongoing which aims at proposing an indication in Table A for environmentally hazardous substances. The indication should be for those substances cited by name which meet the classification criteria in paragraph 2.2.9.1.10. Since we believe it is important to complement these marking provisions with information that indicates when the marking is required (e.g information to consignors and to carriers indicating when to put placards on their vehicle), we would like to ensure that such work is ongoing.

Proposal

In the table in sub-section 5.4.3.4,

1. amend the heading in the left column as follows (change underlined):
“Danger labels, placards and markings”
2. add a new entry after Class 9 with the following information:

Environmentally hazardous substance mark  Symbol (fish and tree)	Risk to the aquatic environment and the sewerage system.	Prevent leaking substances from running into the aquatic environment or the sewage system.
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Justification

The purpose of the marking is to attract users’ and drivers’ attention to the water pollutant characteristics of the substance. Therefore, having access to information of how to proceed in case of spillage is essential.

Safety: The level of safety will be improved.

Feasibility: No problems foreseen.
