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Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL
CARRIAGE OF PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS AND ON THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT
TO BE USED FOR SUCH CARRIAGE (ATP)**

New proposals

Proposal for an amendment to paragraph 49 of Annex 1, Appendix 2 concerning the certificate
of maintenance of cooling appliances*

Transmitted by the Government of Sweden

SUMMARY

Executive summary: Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 49 of the ATP does not include any requirements for a certificate of maintenance of the cooling appliance.

Action to be taken: Adoption of an amended text of paragraph 49.

Related documents: None.

* The present document is submitted in accordance with the Programme of Work for 2008-2012 of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/2008/11, Item 2.11 (a)) which calls for the "Consideration of amendment proposals to ATP to ensure it is updated as necessary".

Introduction

1. In order to guarantee the preservation of the quality of perishable foodstuffs during their carriage a number of parameters are important, for example performance of the cooling unit and the reliability of the cooling unit. Checking of these parameters during an ATP inspection is not harmonised because no regulations are defined in paragraph 49.

Proposal

2. Amend the introductory text of Annex 1, Appendix 2, paragraph 49 to read as follows. New text is underlined.

"49. To verify as prescribed in Appendix 1, paragraphs 1 (b) and 1 (c), to this annex the efficiency of the thermal appliance of each item of refrigerated, mechanically refrigerated or heated equipment in service, the competent authorities may:

- Apply the methods described in paragraphs 32 to 47 of this appendix; or
- Appoint experts to apply the particulars described in paragraph 29 (a) and (b) of this appendix when applicable as well as the certificate of maintenance of the cooling appliance and the following provisions:"

(Remaining text unchanged)

Justification

3. Statistics have shown that in approximately 30% of failed ATP tests, the reason is a failure of the cooling appliance. The cooling units are very often in a bad condition, especially after 9 years. Typical deficiencies are for example belt tensions, battery performance, damaged evaporator construction, dirty condensers, damaged displays and buttons on the controller unit and low refrigerant levels. It is therefore of importance that the cooling appliance has undergone a maintenance service before undergoing the 6 and 9 year ATP test.

4. Regular maintenance of the cooling unit will help to guarantee the preservation of the quality of perishable foodstuffs during their carriage, will minimize the risk of damaged foodstuffs and will help to save fuel due to optimal operation conditions.

Simplification

5. Introduction of an amended paragraph 49 will ease the work of competent authorities.

Feasibility

6. The amendment proposed is expected to improve practical life.

Enforceability

7. No problem of enforcement is foreseen. The new text will be an improvement for control authorities.
