

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

13 April 2010

Thirty-seventh session

Geneva, 21–30 June 2010

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Revision of the IAEA Safety Regulations (TS-R-1) and implementation of guidance for the security in transport of radioactive material

Transmitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

1. By resolution 724 (XXVIII) of 17 July 1959, the Economic and Social Council informed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of its desire that the agency be entrusted with the drafting of recommendations on the transport of radioactive substances, provided that they are consistent with the framework and general principles of recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods of the United Nations, and that they are established in consultation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned.
2. Since then, the IAEA has elaborated, in close cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material, the provisions of which were incorporated in the UN Model Regulations on the transport of Dangerous Goods (11th revised edition, 1999).
3. In October 2009 TRANSSEC (the IAEA committee dealing with transport) recommended that a revision of the IAEA Transport Safety Regulations should take place. This revision will focus on the subjects identified in annex 1. This decision has been approved by the IAEA's Commission of Safety Standards (CSS) by its 27th meeting in March this year.
4. The IAEA process involves a 120-day period for member states comments. This is open to all Member States and is not limited to IAEA representatives. It is predicted that this will take place between July and October 2010. Following this, works concentrate on response to these comments. This is important for member of the sub-committee to send any significant comments during this 120-day period through state representatives.
5. The provisional timetable indicates that an initial draft will be transmitted to UNECE in March 2011, followed by a final draft in October 2011. This final draft will still be subject to approval by the IAEA Board, predicted to be requested in March 2012.
6. Around 50 paragraphs in TS-R-1 are proposed to be changed which bear accepted comments from both 2007 and 2009 review cycles.

7. Significant progress on three long-term outstanding technical issues :
 - 1) Fissile :
 - (a) Addresses transport of very small fissile material quantities ;
 - (b) Specifies limits on packages, consignments and conveyances ;
 - (c) Requires exclusive use shipment for certain small quantities .
 - 2) Norm :
 - (a) Completed in November 2009 a 3-year Coordinated Research Project led by 9 Member States extends;
 - (b) Transport exemption for NORM to include material irrespective of intended end use;
 - (c) Revision is based on dose and radiological protection consideration.
 - 3) Transport of less than 0.1 Kg UF₆ :
 - a) As excepted package ;
 - b) A new UN number: UN No 3XXX RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE - URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE, LESS THAN 0.1 KG PER PACKAGE.
