

**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 Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**

3 December 2010

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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Draft resolution 2011/... of the Economic and Social Council

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Note by the secretariat

The Sub-Committee may wish to consider the following draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2011 substantive session.

[Draft resolution 2011/...

**Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous
Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and
Labelling of Chemicals**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 and 2009/19 of 29 July 2009,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2009–2010,¹

A. Work of the Committee regarding the transport of dangerous goods

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Committee for the harmonization of codes and regulations relating to the transport of dangerous goods,

Bearing in mind the need to maintain safety standards at all times and to facilitate trade, as well as the importance of this to the various organizations responsible for modal regulations, while meeting the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe and secure transport of dangerous goods,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods being introduced into worldwide commerce, and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

¹ E/2011/....

Recalling that, while the major international instruments governing the transport of dangerous goods by the various modes of transport and many national regulations are now better harmonized with the Model Regulations annexed to the Committee's recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods, further work on harmonizing these instruments is necessary to enhance safety and to facilitate trade, and recalling also that uneven progress in the updating of national inland transport legislation in some countries of the world continues to present serious challenges to international multimodal transport,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals with respect to matters relating to the transport of dangerous goods, including their security in transport;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods² to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the seventeenth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*³ and amendment 1 to the fifth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria*⁴ in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, no later than the end of 2011;

(c) To make those publications available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe,⁵ which provides secretariat services to the Committee, and to make them available also on CD-ROM;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the secretariat of the Committee their views on the Committee's work, together with any comments that they may wish to make on the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the international organizations concerned to take into account the recommendations of the Committee when developing or updating appropriate codes and regulations;

5. *Requests* the Committee to study, in consultation with the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental organizations concerned, the possibilities of improving the implementation of the Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in all countries for the purposes of ensuring a high level of safety and eliminating technical barriers to international trade, including through the further harmonization of international agreements or conventions governing the international transport of dangerous goods;

² ST/SG/AC.10/38/Add.1 and Add.2.

³ ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.17.

⁴ ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5/Amend.1.

⁵ www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm.

6. *Invites* all Governments, as well as the regional commissions and organizations concerned, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization to provide feedback to the Committee regarding differences between the provisions of national, regional or international legal instruments and those of the Model Regulations, in order to enable the Committee to develop cooperative guidelines for enhancing consistency between these requirements and reducing unnecessary impediments; to identify existing substantive and modal international, regional and national differences, with the aim of reducing those differences to the greatest extent practical and ensuring that where differences are necessary they do not pose impediments to the safe and efficient transport of dangerous goods; and to undertake an editorial review of the Model Regulations and various modal instruments with the aim of improving clarity, user friendliness and ease of translation;

B. Work of the Committee regarding the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

[To be completed]

C. Programme of work of the Committee

Taking note of the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2011–2012 as contained in paragraphs [...] and [...] of the report of the Secretary-General,⁶

Noting the relatively poor level of participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee and the need to promote their wider participation in its work,

1. *Decides* to approve the programme of work of the Committee;
2. *Stresses* the importance of the participation of experts from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee, calls, in that regard, for voluntary contributions to facilitate their participation, including through support for travel and daily subsistence, and invites Member States and international organizations in a position to do so to contribute;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council in 2013 on the implementation of the present resolution, the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods and the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

⁶ [To be completed]