

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 13–17 September 2010

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Any other business

Information for the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting on the informal working group on carriage in bulk to be held in London from the 4th to 6th October 2010

Transmitted by the United Kingdom

Introduction

1. Following the discussion of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2010/25 Carriage in bulk and in bulk containers at the March 2010 Joint Meeting, the United Kingdom will be hosting an inter-sessional working group on this subject in London on 4th to 6th October 2010. The United Kingdom reminds the Joint Meeting that the deadline for any working papers is 20th September 2010.
2. The United Kingdom after consultation with Joint Meeting attendees via correspondence has prepared the terms of reference for the working group to discuss the harmonisation of the two existing systems of codes for carriage in bulk. The agreed terms of reference can be found below.

Terms of reference

3. After the discussions of paper 2010/25 in the March 2010 Joint Meeting in Bern, it became evident that for some delegations the existing dual system for the transport of bulk within RID/ADR/ADN was in need of rationalisation and evaluation to ensure that provisions are still fit for purpose. Therefore an inter-sessional working group hosted by the United Kingdom was established to streamline the provisions and examine the possible integration of the RID/ADR/ADN bulk transport provisions (VV and VW) into the system used by the UN Model Regulations for bulk containers (BK codes).
4. The working group will evaluate the potential harmonisation of the two systems for the carriage of dangerous goods in bulk which are currently contained within RID/ADR/ADN. As part of this process the working group will examine the principle of aligning the VV and VW codes into the BK system to establish whether or not such a harmonisation with the UN Model Regulations would be beneficial. The working group shall refer to papers 2010/25, INF.3, INF.14, INF.20 and INF.33 from the March 2010 Joint Meeting.
5. The working group methodology will be as follows:
 - (a) A review of the existing reasons behind the content of VV/VW provisions;
 - (b) The assignment of analogous BK codes to items currently assigned with VV/VW codes;

- (c) If there are situations where application of BK1 or BK2 codes is not immediately analogous, how to integrate those provisions into the BK format;
 - (d) How to reference bulk transport provisions that cannot be assigned an existing BK code into Table A, Chapter 3.2 of RID/ADR/ADN; and
 - (e) To assess the benefit of an integrated system against practical problems that might arise as a result of the elimination of VV/VW codes.
6. Depending on the results of paragraphs 1 and 2 above there will be consideration of a consequential editorial revision of Chapter 7.3 of RID/ADR.
7. How transitional measures shall be implemented during the change from the VV/VW system to the BK system.
8. Upon conclusion of their work the working group will submit a written report on its conclusions to the next Joint Meeting for their consideration.

Draft agenda and list of attendees so far

9. The draft agenda for the working group can be found below:

Informal working group on carriage in bulk draft agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda
 - 2. Discussion on the need for harmonized bulk container provisions
 - 3. Assessment of the benefits of an integrated system against practical problems that might arise as a result of the elimination of VV and VW codes.
 - 4. Review of March 2010 RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting papers:
 - 2010/25 (INF. 3 and INF. 14) UK
 - INF. 20 UIC
 - INF. 33 Portugal
 - 5. A review of the content of BK codes and VV/VW provisions
 - 6. Assignment of analogous BK codes to VV/VW provisions
 - 7. Integration of non analogous provisions into the BK format
 - 8. Referencing bulk transport provisions which can't be assigned existing BK codes into Table A, Chapter 3.2 of RID/ADR/ADN.
 - 9. Consequential review of Chapter 7.3 of RID/ADR/ADN.
 - 10. Implementation of transitional measures.
 - 11. Adoption of the draft report of bulk working group conclusions by correspondence if necessary.
10. The following delegates have confirmed their attendance by 10 September 2010:
- Jeff Hart – Chair
 - Helen Gilson – UK
 - Nigel Reader – UK
 - Klaas Tiemersma – Netherlands
 - Helmut Rein – Germany
 - Ingo Döring – Germany

Jan Werner	– Germany
Iñigo Elorza Carengt	– Spain
Katerina Ström	– Sweden
Josefine Gullö	– Sweden
Arianne Roumier	– France
Armando Jorge Viçoso	– AEGPL Europe
Arlette Seywert	– CLCCR
Andrzej Kolasa	– Transportation Technical Supervision
Henryk Ognik	– Transportation Technical Supervision
