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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Ninety-fourth session

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Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to Annexes A and B of ADR: miscellaneous proposals

Dimensions of orange-coloured plates in 5.3.2.2.1

Transmitted by Belgium and Hungary¹

Summary

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| Executive summary: | Clarification of the text of 5.3.2.2.1 in Annex A of ADR concerning the reduced dimensions of orange-coloured plates. |
| Action to be taken: | Amend the text of the second paragraph of 5.3.2.2.1. |
| Related documents: | Informal document INF.16 from the ninety-second session of WP.15; paragraphs 17-18 of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/215 (report of the ninety-second session of the Working Party); paragraph 31 of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/217 (report of the ninety-third session of the Working Party). |

¹ The present document is submitted in accordance with paragraph 1 (c) of the terms of reference of the Working Party, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/190/Add.1, which provides a mandate to “develop and update the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)”.

Introduction

1. Hungary submitted informal document INF.16 to the ninety-second session of the Working Party (May 2012) on the interpretation of the reduced dimensions of orange-coloured plates in 5.3.2.2.1. The result of the discussion is reflected in the report as follows:

”17. Most delegations considered that any intermediate dimensions between those called for in the first paragraph of 5.3.2.2.1 and the reduced dimensions set out in the second paragraph would be acceptable, as long as the orange-coloured plates remained rectangular. Most delegations also confirmed that the size of the orange-coloured plates could be different at the front and rear of vehicles.

18. A proposal to clarify the texts to take into account that interpretation as a general principle could be considered in the light of the outcome of the work done on the harmonization of hazard markings by the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. A proposal on the dimensions of orange-coloured plates should be sent to the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting.”

2. At the ninety-third session of the Working Party (November 2012) the working party endorsed that this issue has relevance only for ADR, the proposal should be sent to the Working Party.

Proposal

3. The text of the second paragraph of 5.3.2.2.1 reads as follows:

“If the size and construction of the vehicle are such that the available surface area is insufficient to affix these orange-coloured plates, their dimensions may be reduced to 300 mm for the base, 120 mm for the height and 10 mm for the black border.”.

4. To reflect the interpretation endorsed by most of the delegations during the ninety-second session, we propose a simple amendment of the text to read:

“If the size and construction of the vehicle are such that the available surface area is insufficient to affix these orange-coloured plates, their dimensions may be reduced to a minimum of 300 mm for the base, 120 mm for the height and 10 mm for the black border. In this case, a different set of dimensions within the specified range may be used for the two orange-coloured plates specified in 5.3.2.1.1.

When reduced dimensions of orange-coloured plates are used for a packaged radioactive material .. *remaining unchanged*”.

Justification

Safety: Affixing an orange-coloured plate adjusting the available surface area if it is bigger than the minimum is advantageous for safety.

Feasibility: No problem is foreseen. No transitional period is needed.

Enforceability: No problem is foreseen.
