



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
12 June 2013

Original: English

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, 17-27 September 2013

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals of amendments to RID/ADR/ADN

Definition of nominal capacity of the receptacle - consequential amendments

Submitted by the Government of Romania^{1,2}

Summary

Executive summary:	As a follow up of the decision of the Joint Meeting to amend 1.1.3.6.3 and the definition “ <i>Nominal capacity of the receptacle</i> ”, there is a series of consequential amendments to be considered.
Action to be taken:	Amend the definition of the “ <i>Nominal capacity of the receptacle</i> ”, special provision 660 and 1.1.3.6.3 – last indent.
Related documents:	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/130, para. 58 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/130/Annexe II, Amendments for entry into force on 1 January 2015, 1.1.3.6.3, 1.2.1 Informal document INF.48 (Switzerland and Germany), March 2013 session ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2013/17 (Switzerland)

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2013/35.

Introduction

1. Romania was invited to prepare a document containing the consequential amendments of the decision of the March 2013 Joint Meeting to amend 1.1.3.6.3 and 1.2.1 in RID/ADR/ADN (see para. 58, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/130).

2. At the last session of the Joint Meeting, the following decisions were adopted:

1.1.3.6.3 Amend the last indent to read as follows:

“- For liquids, the total quantity of dangerous goods contained in litres;

For compressed gases, the nominal capacity of the receptacle (see definition 1.2.1) in litres.”

[Reference document: INF.48, March 2013]

1.2.1 In the definition of “*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*”, delete:

“means the nominal volume of the dangerous substance contained in the *receptacle* expressed in litres”.

[Reference document: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2013/17]

3. As a consequence of the second amendment mentioned above, the definition in 1.2.1 of the “*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*” is (stricken out text was deleted at the last session):

~~“*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*” means the nominal volume of the dangerous substance contained in the receptacle expressed in litres. For compressed gas cylinders the nominal capacity shall be the water capacity of the cylinder;~~

4. The definition is used for the purposes of 1.1.3.6.3, last indent, as amended and special provision (SP) 660 in Chapter 3.3.

5. In our opinion there are several possibilities in which to solve the problem of the remaining text, and we ask the Joint Meeting to decide the best solution.

Proposal 1

6. Amend the definition “*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*”, as follows (stricken out text is deleted, bold text is added):

~~“*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*” (for compressed gas cylinders) the nominal capacity shall be~~ **means** the water capacity of the cylinder;

7. The above mentioned proposal is a mere rewording of the current text, and it has several disadvantages as follows:

It does not refer to all receptacles, and it is applicable for compressed gas cylinders only;

The restriction of the meaning to compressed gas cylinders conflicts with the broad definition of the “Receptacle” (N.B. Compressed gas cylinders do not represent a defined term in 1.2.1).

8. The wording “*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*” is used as such only in the new text adopted for 1.1.3.6.3, last indent.

9. SP 660 (g) (vi) reads as follows:

“(vi) ... in the case of compressed gases the nominal capacity in litres of each fuel gas containment system followed by the nominal working pressure;”

10. As there is an inconsistency in the terminology used and the term is not used as such in two places in ADR, the following proposal is meant to resolve this issue.

Proposal 2

11. Delete the remaining text of the definition “*Nominal capacity of the receptacle*” in 1.2.1.

Consequential amendments

12. If the current text in 1.2.1 is deleted, there are two ways to approach the necessary consequential amendments.

13. The first variant would be to introduce the deleted text from 1.2.1, in SP 660, and amend accordingly, with a reference to SP 660, the current text in 1.1.3.6.3, the last indent.

14. This proposal is a less user-friendly alternative to proposal 2.2, and conflicts with the principle of the exemption stipulated in 1.1.3.6.3.

Proposal 2.1

15. If Proposal 2 is adopted, in SP 660, add a new paragraph before the final Note, as follows:

“For compressed gas cylinders, the nominal capacity shall be the water capacity of the **cylinder/containment system**.”

16. Modify the last indent of 1.1.3.6.3, last indent, as amended as follows:

“For compressed gases, the nominal capacity of the receptacle (see ~~definition 1.2.1~~ **special provision 660 in Chapter 3.3**) ~~in litres.~~”

17. The second variant of consequential amendments is the best solution from our point of view and clarifies all aspects discussed above.

Proposal 2.2

18. If Proposal 2 is adopted, rephrase the last indent of 1.1.3.6.3, as amended at the last session, as follows (stricken out text is deleted, bold text is added):

“For compressed gases, the ~~nominal capacity~~ **water capacity** of the receptacle (~~see definition 1.2.1~~) in litres.”

19. Modify SP 660 (g) (vi), the second part of the paragraph as follows (stricken out text is deleted, bold text is added):

“(vi) ... in the case of compressed gases the ~~nominal capacity~~ **water capacity** in litres of each fuel gas containment system followed by the nominal working pressure;”