

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

November 20, 2015

Forty-eighth session

Geneva, 30 November-9 December 2015

Item 2(e) of the provisional agenda

Explosives and related matters: Harmonized standard for security markings

Globally harmonized standard for explosives security markings

Transmitted by the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME)

Introduction

1. The Institute of Makers of Explosives provides this INF paper as an update to the subcommittee on the progress of the work to develop a globally harmonized standard for explosives security markings.

Background

2. At the 47th session, IME submitted a draft proposal for consideration by the subcommittee. The intent was to collect comments and to prepare a formal proposal for this session.

3. Comments were received from several experts including the European Commission. The Commission's comments outlined some areas that were not fully aligned with the Directive in place within the EU and contained an offer to assist in further development of the proposal.

4. There was support for the IME proposal; however, whether the proposal should be included in the Model Regulations remained unresolved. IME was encouraged to continue work, in consultation with staff from the European Commission, and to return with an improved proposal. Once the proposal was finalized, the subcommittee would then consider the issue of placement within the Model Regulations.

Activity since the 47th Session

6. In August, IME responded by letter to the European Commission thanking it for the offer of staff assistance and addressing the issues raised by the Commission at the 47th Session.

7. In October, IME attended a meeting of the explosives working group of the European Commission. At that meeting, IME's letter was discussed. Members did not voice any significant concerns with IME's proposed solutions and consensus seemed to be that IME and the EC could work together to resolve issues identified by the Commission. The Commission staff indicated its willingness to work with IME and thanked IME for bringing the issue to international attention.

Current status

8. IME plans to work with the Commission staff during the time period between the 48th Session and the 49th Session with the intent to produce an improved proposal for consideration by this subcommittee at 49th Session.
