

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

18 March 2015

Bern, 23-27 March 2015

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Accidents and risk management

Accident reporting - Comments on : ECE-TRANS- WP15-AC1-2015-BE-INF30e –

Transmitted by the Government of France

1. At the last Joint Meeting, ERA proposed a roadmap on risk management in the context of inland transport of dangerous goods, including several workshops (see document ECE-TRANS-WP15-AC1-2014-GE-INF.16). The Joint meeting invited ERA to study the type of information that would be useful in the accident reports in order to facilitate the risk evaluations and to submit the conclusions of the two workshops to be held in October 2014 and February 2015.
2. The documents INF 29 and INF 30 submitted to the present session report the result of these workshops. In particular, Annex II of the document INF 30 outlines some principles to organize the accident reporting by considering the necessary information for Risk Assessment Analysis and other purposes.
3. France welcomes the work done so far and encourages the different Competent Authorities to consider a greater participation to the future workshops, as for instance the road sector has been less represented in these workshop that are addressing all modes of transport even if they take place at the railway agency.
4. The objectives of the workshops organized by ERA are not specifically the development of accident reporting. However, as accident data and statistics are a necessary tool for risk evaluation, it is necessary to work on accident reporting and accident database as an essential part of the global project.
5. Concerning more precisely accident reporting and its processing work may be done in several steps, each of which may be done independently or in relation to the others, but it is important not to mix them in order to work on clear concepts:
 - a) Listing all information needed to understand an accident, regardless of any regulation framework or database structure;
 - b) Drafting of regulatory framework to make the transmission of accident reporting compulsory ;
 - c) Building of digital accident databases, in order to facilitate accident data processing, and defining collaborative work between databases in order to both avoid

duplication of work and the widest access to all necessary data (specific to dangerous goods and general data necessary to understand what happened)

6. France strongly supports further work on improving accident reporting, as it has many benefits (such as improvement of accident knowledge, improvement of regulations ...) which are more immediate than the sole benefits to Risk Assessment Analysis. France supports the conclusions of the 3rd ERA workshop as reported in document INF30 Annex II and the continuation of the work on accident reporting on that basis.

7. Taking note of the amount of work to be done and that, according to the ERA roadmap in document ECE-TRANS-WP15-AC1-2014-GE-INF.16, the next workshop dedicated to technical discussions on databases is planned in June 2016, the Joint Meeting is invited to decide on the best way to work on the improvement of accident reporting in cooperation with the ERA workshop.

8. The work broadly outlined under point 5 may prove to be quite complex. In order to help the Joint Meeting to make a decision especially for delegates that have not been able to participate to the workshops, France has produced a listing of all possible useful data and their codification. It takes into account the experience of French administration acquired during many year of maintaining a national database as well as codification used in other contexts such as CADAS (EU Common Accident Data Set), EUROSTAT- ITF- UNECE Illustrated glossary for transport statistics and US DOT - Hazardous Material Incident Report.

9. This list has to be considered as a first draft linked to point 5a) only. It presents a gross list of data without prejudice of any database structure and future regulated reporting system. It is not presented for detailed discussion but only as an illustration. (See INF.34 Add.1).
