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Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Ninth session

Geneva, 7 (afternoon) December 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations for the ninth session* **

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 14.30 on Friday 7 December 2018

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of the officers.
3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council.
4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2017– 2018.
5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2017– 2018.

* The deadline for submission of documents is 7 September 2018. For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgcomm/ac10age.html>). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

** Delegates are requested to register online using the new registration system on the UNECE website (https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=kn_Tit). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 72106). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see the website (www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html).

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2019 – 2020:
 - (a) Programme of work and related proposals;
 - (b) Calendar of meetings.
7. Draft resolution 2019/... of the Economic and Social Council.
8. Any other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

II. Background information

Status and membership

1. The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council and was previously known as the “Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods”. It was reconfigured by the Economic and Social Council’s resolution 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, with two sub-committees (see also document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/7):

- (a) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee); and
- (b) the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee).

2. Since its reconfiguration, the Committee held eight sessions as follows. All sessions were held in Geneva:

- (a) First session: 11– 12 December 2002 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/29 and Add.1 and 2);
- (b) Second session: 10 December 2004 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/32 and Add. 1-3 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (c) Third session: 15 December 2006 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/34 and Add. 1-3, Add.1/Corr.1, Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (d) Fourth session, 12 December 2008 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/36 and -Corr.1, and Add. 1-3, Add.1/Corr.1 – 3 and Add.2/Corr.1);
- (e) Fifth session: 10 December 2010 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/38 and Add. 1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1);
- (f) Sixth session: 14 December 2012 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/40 and Add. 1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.3/Corr.1 and 2);
- (g) Seventh session: 12 December 2014 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/42 and Add. 1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2 and Add.3/Corr.1);
- (h) Eighth session: 9 December 2016 (report circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/44 and 44/Corr.1, and Add. 1-3).

3. Pursuant to the Economic and Social Council's decisions 2001/201B, 2002/201C, 2003/201D, 2005/201C, 2008/201C, 2009/201C, 2010/201B and 2010/201E the membership of the Committee is 40, as follows:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark¹, Finland, France, Germany, Greece¹, India², Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland¹, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico², Morocco², Netherlands, New Zealand¹, Nigeria¹, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar¹, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal¹, Serbia¹, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland², Ukraine¹, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia¹.

Documentation

4. The documentation relating to the Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SY/AC.10/...

5. The documentation relating to the TDG Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SY/AC.10/C.3/...

6. The documentation relating to the GHS Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SY/AC.10/C.4/...

7. Documents are issued in English and French only, which are the working languages of the secretariat.

8. All documents are available on the web site of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)³, whose secretariat provides the secretariat services for the Committee.

Interpretation

9. Interpretation during the session will be provided in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Rules of procedures

10. In accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, Chapters VI and VIII to XII of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council apply to the proceedings of the Committee and of its sub-committees (refer also to documents ST/SY/AC.10/C.4/2001/1 and ST/SY/AC.10/C.4/2001/6).

Mandate

11. In accordance with resolution 1999/65, the mandate of the Committee is to deal with strategic issues rather than technical issues. It is not envisaged that it would review, change or revisit technical recommendations of the sub-committees.

¹ Committee and GHS Sub-Committee only.

² Committee and TDG Sub-Committee only.

³ <http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.html>.

12. Its main functions are:

- (a) To approve the work programmes of the sub-committees in the light of available resources;
- (b) To coordinate strategic and policy directions in areas of shared interests and overlap;
- (c) To give formal endorsement to the recommendations of the sub-committees and provide the mechanism for channelling them to the Economic and Social Council;
- (d) Facilitate and coordinate the smooth running of the sub-committees.

Timetable

13. The length of the session has been limited to half a day. It will be preceded by the fifty-fourth session of the TDG Sub-Committee (26 November – 4 December 2018) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/107 and Add.1) and the thirty-sixth session of the GHS Sub-Committee (5–7 (morning) December 2018) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/71 and Add.1).

III. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

14. In accordance with the established practice, the first item on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

2. Election of officers

15. In accordance with the established practice, the Committee shall elect one President and one or several vice-presidents from among the representatives of its members.

3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

16. The resolution of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the programme of work of the Committee during the biennium 2017–2018 is resolution 2017/13 of 8 June 2017 (E/RES/2017/13).

4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2017–2018

17. The reports of the TDG Sub-Committee on its fifty-first, fifty-second and fifty-third sessions are contained in documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/102 and Add.1; ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/104 and Add.1 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/106 and Add.1.

18. The list of draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations and Manual of Tests and Criteria adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2018/64 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2018/65.

19. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's fifty-fourth session (26 November-4 December 2018) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its fifty-fourth session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or in the draft form prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2018/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2018/CRP.4 and addenda for changes to the consolidated list of draft amendments). The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2017–2018

20. The reports of the GHS Sub-Committee on its thirty-third, thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions have been issued as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/66, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/68 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/70.

21. The list of draft amendments to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/18.

22. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's thirty-sixth session (5-7 December 2018) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its thirty-sixth session will be made available to the Committee in the draft form prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/CRP.4 and addenda for the consolidated list of draft amendments). The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2019–2020

(a) Programme of work and related proposals

23. The Committee should consider the proposals made by the TDG and the GHS Sub-Committees at their December 2018 sessions for their respective programmes of work and approve them in the light of resources available for 2019–2020.

(b) Calendar of meetings

24. The total number of meeting days allocated to the Committee and its sub-committees by the Economic and Social Council for a biennium is 38 days (i.e. 76 meetings of three-hour duration). On the basis of the experience for the biennium 2017–2018, the following dates have been provisionally scheduled by the secretariat for 2019–2020:

2019

1 - 5 July 2019	TDG Sub-Committee (55 th session)
8 - 10 (morning) July 2019	GHS Sub-Committee (37 th session)
2 - 11 (morning) December 2019	TDG Sub-Committee (56 th session)
11 (afternoon) - 13 December 2019	GHS Sub-Committee (38 th session)

2020

29 June - 8 (morning) July 2020	TDG Sub-Committee (57 th session)
8 (afternoon) - 10 July 2020	GHS Sub-Committee (39 th session)
30 November - 8 December 2020	TDG Sub-Committee (58 th session)
9 - 11 (morning) December 2020	GHS Sub-Committee (40 th session)
11 December (afternoon) 2020	TDG-GHS Committee (10 th session)

25. The Committee may wish to consider the allocation of meetings for each sub-committee depending on their respective programmes of work.

7. Draft resolution 2019/... of the Economic and Social Council

26. The Committee may wish to note that both sub-committees will have prepared their own contribution to the draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2019 session. The Committee should combine the two parts and adopt the draft resolution to be submitted to the Council.

8. Any other business

27. At the time of writing, there is no issue under this agenda item.

9. Adoption of the report

28. The Committee should adopt the report on its ninth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.
