



**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****Fifty-seventh session**

Geneva, 29 June-8 July 2020

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Guiding principles for the Model Regulations**Review of the guiding principles****Note by the secretariat*****Introduction**

1. The purpose of the guiding principles for the development of the Model Regulations is to explain the underlying principles that have been applied in developing the Model Regulations.
2. At its fifty-sixth session in December 2019, the Sub-Committee adopted an amendment aiming at clarifying the rationale behind the exempted quantity provisions (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/112, para. 125 and 126). When updating the current version of the guiding principles to take account of this decision, the secretariat noticed that several additional updates were needed to make them compliant with the twenty-first revised edition of the Model Regulations.
3. The proposed draft takes account of the changes relating to the exempted quantity provisions adopted by the Sub-Committee at its fifty-sixth session.

Summary of proposed amendments

4. A full editorial review of the document was conducted to ensure consistency, align the text with the provisions in the Model Regulations (e.g. replacing of “risk” by “hazard” as appropriate) and the Manual of Tests and Criteria, correct references and add additional guidance when needed.
5. All paragraphs have been numbered to facilitate referencing. To avoid extensive renumbering in case of deletion or insertion of new text, only the paragraphs related to the same subject have been numbered consecutively.

* 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect.20) and Supplementary, Subprogramme 2

Part 0: Introduction, paragraph 1, sentence referring to the applicability of the guiding principles in relation to a given revised edition of the Model Regulations

6. The secretariat invites the Sub-Committee to reconsider whether the guiding principles should continue to be linked to a specific revised edition of the Model Regulations bearing in mind that the same guiding principles may be applicable to several revised editions of the Model Regulations.

7. If the Sub-Committee considers that there is no need to link them to a specific revised edition of the Model Regulations, the secretariat proposes to delete the sentence between square brackets shown in Part 0, Introduction, paragraph 1.

Rationale

8. The guiding principles were initially developed on the assumption that they will need to be updated every two years to be used in relation to each of the revised editions of the Model Regulations.

9. The first edition of the guiding principles was adopted by the Sub-Committee at its thirtieth session in 2006, based on a proposal by the United Kingdom (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60, paragraphs 96 to 98).

10. Several updates were adopted to take account of the fifteenth to the nineteenth revised editions of the Model Regulations. None of these updates addressed the use of bulk containers, which were still been referred to as “to be developed” even though the provisions for bulk containers for the transport of solid substances in Chapter 4.3 were introduced already in the thirteenth revised edition of the Model Regulations (published in 2013).

Part 2 Classification

General information about CAS numbers

11. Although it is understood that the intent of the general information about CAS numbers in paragraph 1 of Part 2 was to give an idea of the continuously increasing number of new substances produced each year, this information does not seem to be relevant for the purposes of the guiding principles. As indicated in the paragraph itself, not all CAS registered substances are dangerous goods for transport. Moreover, given that the number of registered CAS substances increases daily, the information provided in this paragraph would be already outdated by the time a revised version of the guiding principles is published.

12. In view of the above, the Sub-Committee is invited to consider deleting the text placed between square brackets in paragraph 1 of Part 2. Should the information be considered relevant in the context of the guiding principles, the Sub-Committee is invited to consider the proposed updates.

Guidance on classes, divisions, packing groups and types of entries in the dangerous goods list and their assignment

13. New text from Chapter 2.0 of the Model Regulations has been added to facilitate guidance on the definition of classes and divisions, types of entries in the dangerous goods list and their assignment.

14. A new paragraph 10 has been introduced providing the list of substances and articles that are not assigned to packing groups.

Reference to the Manual of Tests and Criteria

15. Paragraph 13 has been amended to take account of the revision of the Manual in the context of the GHS (see paragraph 1.1.1 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria).

Reference to the provisions for consignments treated with substances that may pose a risk of poisoning or asphyxiation

16. Paragraph 14 has been amended to take account of the new provisions addressing not only fumigated cargo transport units but also those applicable to packages and cargo transport

units containing substances presenting a risk of asphyxiation when used for cooling or conditioning purposes. Additionally, this paragraph has been moved to Part 5 (consignment procedures) since it is not related to classification (see paragraph 25 in this document).

Part 3 Chapter 3.5, excepted quantities

17. The provisions for excepted quantities have been amended in accordance with the decision taken by the Sub-Committee at its fifty-sixth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/100/Add.1).

Part 4 In A: Packing instructions for divisions 6.1, 6.2 and class 8

18. New cases and examples have been added.

In B: tables 4.1 and 4.2

19. Additional details were added in table 4.1 and the entries in table 4.2 were updated.

In C: Section 1

20. In paragraph 4 (a), additional guidance addressing transport of substances in portable tanks subject to approval by the competent authority (in accordance with 4.2.5.1.1 and 6.7.1.3 of the Model Regulations) was added.

In C: Section 2

21. New paragraphs 5 to 13 provide guidance on the assignment of portable tank instructions in accordance with 4.2.5 of the Model Regulations and some of the entries in table 4.3 were updated to take account of chemicals under pressure.

In C: Section 3

22. The existing guidelines for assigning tank provisions (TP) have been completely revised and updated. Since the last update of the guiding principles, TP12, TP23, TP35, TP37, TP38 and TP39 were deleted; TP10, TP19 and TP32 were amended and TP41 was added.

23. To avoid unnecessary repetition of text, it is proposed to replace the current listing of tank provisions with a table containing the guidance for assignment of each tank provision which was previously given in the notes, without repeating the text of the tank provisions itself.

In D: Use of bulk containers

24. A new section with guidance on the use of bulk containers for the transport of solid substances in accordance with Chapter 4.3 of the Model Regulations has been added.

Part 5 Consignment procedures

25. The text referring to the documentation and warning signs for fumigated cargo transport units, previously located under Chapter 2 (Classification), has been updated and moved to Part 5 as a new paragraph 5.

Part 6 Transitional periods for new standards

26. The examples provided have been updated.

Action requested from the Sub-Committee

27. The secretariat invites the Sub-Committee to consider the draft revised version of the guiding principles in informal document INF.3 as well as the questions in paragraphs 6,7 and 12 above.