



# UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 66 – 3-7 May 2004

## *It's just happened ...*

### **ADR: Cyprus becomes the 39<sup>th</sup> Contracting Party**

On 19 April 2004, Cyprus acceded to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), bringing to 39 the number of Contracting Parties to this Agreement. The ADR aims at ensuring a high level of safety during the international carriage of dangerous goods by road and, through harmonization of transport conditions, facilitates the international transport and trade of a wide range of products of economic importance such as petroleum products, gases, chemicals, agrochemicals, fertilizers, etc.

The annexes to the ADR contain internationally agreed conditions for the international carriage of dangerous substances, including wastes, in packages and in bulk. They address the types of packagings, containers, tanks and vehicles that may be used, requirements for their marking, labelling, use or operation and their construction, testing and approval. They also contain procedures for training of persons involved in the carriage of dangerous goods, safety obligations of the participants, checks and other support measures to ensure compliance



with safety requirements. A new chapter devoted to improving security of the transport of dangerous goods by road will enter into force on 1 January 2005.

The ADR was done at Geneva on 30 September 1957 under the auspices of the UNECE, and entered into force on 29 January

1968. Since then its annexes have been kept up to date on a regular basis by the UNECE Inland Transport Committee's Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, in the light of technical progress, the advent of new substances and materials, the exigencies of modern transport systems and, above all, the requirement to ensure the safety and security of people, property and the environment. In accordance with directive 94/55/EC of 21 November 1994, as amended, the annexes of ADR also apply to domestic and intra-Community traffic in all EU Member States.

For more information contact: Olivier Kervella  
([olivier.kervella@unece.org](mailto:olivier.kervella@unece.org))