



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
27 July 2011  
English  
Original: French

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

##### Sixty-seventh session

Geneva, 25–28 October 2011

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals of amendments to ATP: Pending proposals**

### **ATP batch certificates for small insulated or refrigerated containers<sup>1</sup>**

**Transmitted by the Government of France**

#### **I. Context**

##### **Use of small insulated or refrigerated containers**

1. Small insulated or refrigerated containers having an internal volume of less than 2 m<sup>3</sup> are widely used for the transport of perishable foodstuffs.
2. The number of small insulated or refrigerated containers in use in Europe is comparable to the number of vehicles such as wagons, semi-trailers, trucks, and vans. For example, in France, there are more than 110,000 road units with valid ATP certificates and there are more than 100,000 small insulated or refrigerated containers used for the transport of perishable foodstuffs.
3. Although the majority of transporters only use a few containers, some transporters use several thousand or tens of thousands. These large-scale transporters account for more than 80% of the fleet.

---

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106; ECE/TRANS/2010/8, activity 02.11).



only by an ATP plate issued by the competent ATP authority without any individual certification or marking.

9. Most operators wish nonetheless to have printed certificates for their fleets of small containers.

10. It would be very useful to have general ATP certificates issued for batches of small insulated or refrigerated containers of the same model.

11. France has experimented with an ATP batch certificate of this kind for domestic use only. This certificate has met both manufacturers' and users' needs.

### **Proposal**

12. This proposal would create within ATP the possibility to issue ATP batch certificates only for small insulated or refrigerated containers.

13. To allow such certificates to be issued, new text should be added after annex 1, appendix 1, paragraph 3, of ATP.

### **Impact of the proposal**

14. The amendment will facilitate work for many companies and reduce their costs for managing ATP certificates.

## **II. Proposed amendment to ATP**

15. It is proposed to insert the following boldface text in annex 1, appendix 1, paragraph 3, of ATP:

“3. A certificate of compliance with the standards shall be issued by the competent authority of the country in which the equipment is to be registered and recorded on a form conforming to the model reproduced in appendix 3 to this annex. **For batches of identical serially produced small containers having an internal volume of less than 2 m<sup>3</sup>, a batch certificate may be issued by the competent authority. In such cases, all the container identification numbers, or the first and last identification numbers of the series, shall be indicated on the compliance certificate in lieu of the serial number of each individual unit.**”