



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 June 2017

Original: English

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

Geneva, 19–29 September 2017

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN: new proposals

Languages used for marks

Transmitted by the Government of Sweden* **

Summary

Executive summary: Insert a general requirement in Chapter 5.2 about which languages should be used for the marks, in line with the provision stated for the documentation in 5.4.1.4.1

Introduction

1. In Sweden, an issue concerning the languages used for marks with specific wording on packages has arisen recently. There is no general requirement stated about which languages should be used for these marks, unlike what is stated for the documentation in 5.4.1.4.1. Consequently, this is an issue open for interpretation, which needs to be clarified if we consider these marks important from a safety point of view.

2. Concerning the languages used for marks, there are different specific provisions. In some cases language requirements are given, e.g., special provision 633 and sub-section 5.2.1.5, whereas in other provisions no requirements at all are stated about the language of

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2016-2017, (ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1 (9.2)).

** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2017/28.

the marks, e.g. sub-sections 5.2.1.3 and 5.2.1.6, see Annex for the complete texts in the referenced paragraphs.

3. Many different marks have been included in the regulations, primarily for safety reasons, and therefore Sweden is of the opinion that it would be appropriate to include a general requirement concerning languages used for these marks on packages. We think this would promote safety, be user-friendly and facilitate enforcement. This would also be a step towards more harmonized provisions between different countries.

4. There are further marking requirements in sub-sections 2.2.62.1.5.9, P650 (in 4.1.4.1), 6.2.2.8.1 and 6.2.2.8.2, which are not covered by our general proposal for Chapter 5.2 (see proposal 1 below). Therefore, Sweden proposes, as consequential amendments, to insert specific requirements concerning the use of language directly in these paragraphs,

Proposals

Proposal 1

5. Insert a new sub-section in 5.2.1.2 RID/ADR/ADN, (new text underlined):

“5.2.1.2 All package marks required by this Chapter:

(a) shall be readily visible and legible;

(b) shall be able to withstand open weather exposure without a substantial reduction in effectiveness.

Unless otherwise provided, all marks in the form of specific wording shall be in an official language of the forwarding country and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German, unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.”

Proposal 2

6. Amend the text in 3.3.1 to read as follows (new text underlined):

“3.3.1 When Column (6) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 indicates that a special provision is relevant to a substance or article, the meaning and requirements of that special provision are as set forth below. Where a special provision includes a requirement for package marking, the provisions of 5.2.1.2 (a) and (b) shall be met. If the required mark is in the form of specific wording indicated in quotation marks, such as "Damaged Lithium Batteries", the language shall be in accordance with 5.2.1.2 (last paragraph), and the size of the mark shall be at least 12 mm, unless otherwise indicated in the special provision or elsewhere in RID/ADR/ADN.”

Proposal 3

7. Amend the last paragraph of 2.2.62.1.5.9 to read as follows (new text underlined):

“The packagings shall be marked "USED MEDICAL DEVICE" or "USED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT", and shall be in an official language of the country of origin and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide

otherwise.When using overpacks, these shall be marked in the same way, except when the inscription remains visible.”

Proposal 4

8. Amend the text in paragraph 4 in P650 in 4.1.4.1 to read as follows (new text underlined):

“(4) For carriage, the mark illustrated below shall be displayed on the external surface of the outer packaging on a background of a contrasting colour and shall be clearly visible and legible. The mark shall be in the form of a square set at an angle of 45° (diamond-shaped) with minimum dimensions of 50 mm by 50 mm; the width of the line shall be at least 2 mm and the letters and numbers shall be at least 6 mm high. The proper shipping name "BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B" in letters at least 6 mm high shall be marked on the outer packaging adjacent to the diamond-shaped mark. The proper shipping name shall be in an official language of the country of origin and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.”

Proposal 5

9. Amend the text in 6.2.2.8.1 and 6.2.2.8.2 to read as follows (new text underlined):

“6.2.2.8.1 Non-refillable UN pressure receptacles shall be marked clearly and legibly with certification and gas or pressure receptacle specific marks. These marks shall be permanently affixed (e.g. stencilled, stamped, engraved, or etched) on the pressure receptacle. Except when stencilled, the marks shall be on the shoulder, top end or neck of the pressure receptacle or on a permanently affixed component of the pressure receptacle (e.g. welded collar). Except for the UN packaging symbol and the "DO NOT REFILL" mark, the minimum size of the marks shall be 5 mm for pressure receptacles with a diameter greater than or equal to 140 mm and 2.5 mm for pressure receptacles with a diameter less than 140 mm. The minimum size of the UN packaging symbol shall be 10 mm for pressure receptacles with a diameter greater than or equal to 140 mm and 5 mm for pressure receptacles with a diameter less than 140 mm. The minimum size of the "DO NOT REFILL" mark shall be 5 mm and shall be in an official language of the country of origin and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.

6.2.2.8.2 The marks listed in 6.2.2.7.2 to 6.2.2.7.4 shall be applied with the exception of (g), (h) and (m). The serial number (o) may be replaced by the batch number. In addition, the words "DO NOT REFILL" in letters of at least 5 mm in height are required and shall be in an official language of the country of origin and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise .”

Annex

Examples:

- “SP633 of Chapter 3.3 Packages and small containers containing this substance shall bear the following mark: "Keep away from any source of ignition". This mark shall be in an official language of the forwarding country, and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German, unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.”
- “5.2.1.3 Salvage packagings and salvage pressure receptacles shall additionally be marked with the word "SALVAGE". The lettering of the "SALVAGE" mark shall be at least 12 mm high.”
- “5.2.1.5 Additional provisions for goods of Class 1
- For goods of Class 1, packages shall, in addition, bear the proper shipping name as determined in accordance with 3.1.2. The mark, which shall be clearly legible and indelible, shall be in an official language of the country of origin and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German unless any agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.”
- “5.2.1.6 Additional provisions for goods of Class 2
- Reflable receptacles shall bear the following particulars in clearly legible and durable characters:
- (a) The UN number and the proper shipping name of the gas or mixture of gases, as determined in accordance with 3.1.2.”
-