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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

<u>Sub-Committee of Experts on the</u> Transport of Dangerous Goods

Twenty-ninth session Geneva, 3-12 (a.m.) July 2006 Item 7 of the provisional agenda

MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Transport of infectious substances – Bulk animal carcasses

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

The expert from the United Kingdom recalls the regulations for the bulk transport of wastes and animal carcasses in Division 6.2 which were adopted by the Sub-Committee over the last two biennia for the 13th and 14th revised editions of the UN Model Regulations. As has been pointed out previously by the secretariat these regulations currently do not appear to take account of all possible aspects of such transport in any detail. This issue is all the more pertinent at present with the need to address disposal of carcasses infected with the various avian flu virus, some of which will be classified as Category A, some in Category B.

2. For example:

(a) The need to transport animal carcasses infected with Category B pathogens. At the moment only animal carcasses infected by Category A substances have bulk transport provisions. UN 3373 cannot be used; its proper shipping name is Biological Substance Category B and its intention is to cover specimens for analysis etc. whether human or animal. The packaging provisions are unsuitable for the transport of carcasses and no transport is allowed in bulk;

- (b) Animal feedstuffs contaminated with Division 6.2 substances such as prions;
- (c) There are no bulk provisions for the transport of UN 2814 in bulk containers in the Dangerous Goods List in Chapter 3.2.
- 3. In addition the expert from the United Kingdom notes the comments in the report of the Ad-Hoc UN/RID/ADR harmonisation working group, TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2005/42, paragraph 15-19, that apart from animal carcasses UN 2814 should not be carried in bulk. The expert from the United Kingdom acknowledges the concerns expressed here; bulk transport should not apply to, for example, substances of Category A taken to a laboratory for analysis. He agrees that there should be a separate entry but not in UN 2814 to cover animal carcasses, body parts etc.
- 4. The expert from the United Kingdom therefore proposes adding a new UN number for the assignment of bulk animal carcasses or animal foodstuffs infected with pathogens of Category B (UN xxxx); a new entry to cover infectious substances affecting humans, animal carcasses infected with Category A pathogens (UN zzzz); and the deletion of the tank codes T1 and TP1 from UN 3373 and their insertion in columns 10 and 11 against the new UN number instead. A figure of greater than 4 litres has been indicated as the amount being carried which would attract this new entry as this is the maximum level in the ICAO Technical Instructions at which Category B substances can be packed in P650. The expert from the United Kingdom sees no reason why this could not be adopted in the Model Regulations.
- 5. The United Kingdom believes that if it is accepted that there should be a new UN number for the carriage of animal carcasses, body parts etc infected with a Category B substance, then the portable tank provisions T1 and TP1 should logically be placed by this new PSN. UN 3373 would be reserved for transporting those Category B substances which are packed according to P650. However it is conceivable that a small number of carcasses could be packaged. Packing Instructions are included in square brackets for discussion against UN xxxx.
- 6. The expert from the United Kingdom makes the following proposals below and would welcome comments from members of the Sub-Committee:

Proposal 1(a) Add a new UN number in Chapter 3.2 of the UN Model Regulations;

UN No.	Name and description	Class or	Subsi- diary	UN packing		quanti-	Packagings and IBC		Portable tanks and bulk containers	
		division	risk	group	sions	ties	Packing instruction		Instruc- tions	Special provisions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
X	ANIMAL CARCASSES, BODYPARTS,FLUIDS INCLUDING BLOOD in quantities greater than 4 litres or ANIMAL FOODSTUFFS containing pathogens of Category B	6.2		-	-	None	[P650]		BK 1 BK2 T1	TP1

Proposal 1(b) Amend the title in 4.3.2.4.1 to read

Bulk waste goods of Division 6.2 (UN Nos, 2900, UN xxxx UN zzzz (animal carcasses or animal foodstuffs only)

Proposal 1(c) Amend parts (a) and (c)-(e) of 4.3.2.4.1 in the following manner;

- (a) "For waste goods of UN Nos, 2900 xxxx, zzzz.........
- (b) "Waste goods of UN Nos, 2900 xxxx, zzzz......
- (c) "Waste goods of UN Nos, 2900 xxxx, zzzz......
- (d) "Closed or sheeted bulk containers used for the transport of waste goods of UN Nos, 2900, xxxx, zzzz......

Proposal 2

Add a new UN number for infectious substances affecting humans, (animal carcasses or body parts containing pathogens of Category A.)

UN No.	Name and description	Class or	Subsi- diary risk	UN packing group	Speci al provi- sions	Limited quantities	Packagings and IBCs		Portable tanks and bulk containers	
		division					Packing instruction		Instruc- tions	Special provisions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
	INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE AFFECTING HUMANS (animal carcasses, or body parts containing pathogens of Category A)	6.2			318	None	P620		BK1 BK2	

Proposal 3

Delete T1 and TP1 from columns 10 and 11 of UN 3373 and insert them in columns 10 and 11 of UN xxxxx.
