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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

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Twenty-fourth session, 1-10 December 2003,
agenda item 4 (a))

PACKAGINGS (INCLUDING IBC'S AND LARGE PACKAGINGS)

Evaluation of the United Nations packaging requirements

Establishment of a Working Group

Transmitted by the expert from the Netherlands

1. At the 23rd session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (30 June – 4 July 2003) the Netherlands were requested to submit an advance list of technical and editorial problems identified. This list will enable the Sub-Committee to decide whether the establishment of a working group is justified (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/46, para. 34).
2. Although the majority of the delegations was not in favour of replacing the requirements of the Model Regulations regarding testing of packagings by a reference to ISO standard 16104:2003, the Netherlands were invited to take this standard into account. Special regard should be given to the possibility to incorporate parts of the standard into the relevant parts of Chapter 6.1 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/46, paras. 40 – 41).
3. Due to the limited time available an extensive proposal could not be prepared in time to meet the deadline for submitting proposals for the 24th session of the Sub-Committee. However a detailed list identifying the technical and editorial problems will be submitted by means of an Informal document, well in advance to the 24th session of the Sub-Committee. Such a detailed list will identify the following items:
 - Technical and editorial errors in the text of Part 6.1 (this especially relates to out-dated construction requirements)

- Difference in set-up and presentation of Parts 6.5 (Intermediate Bulk Containers) and 6.6 (Large Packagings) compared to Part 6.1
- Inconsistencies and technical problems in Part 6.3 (Packagings for Division 6.2)

Proposal:

4. With a view to the list of editorial and technical problems as identified in our Informal document that need to be reviewed, The Netherlands propose to establish a working group for a technical and editorial review of the requirements for packagings.

5. The working group, if established, should have the following scope and tasks:

Scope:

Discuss the editorial and technical problems listed in the Informal document with the aim to improve the requirements for packagings in the Model regulations. And identify any possible additional editorial and technical problem(s) found in the process of the work done by working group.

Tasks:

- discuss the necessary editorial and technical problems as listed in the Informal document;
- decide upon the necessary technical and editorial amendments in the Chapters 6.1, 6.3, 6.5 and 6.6;
- [identify the parts of ISO 16104:2003 which may be incorporated into Chapter 6.1;]
- consolidation of the identified amendments; and,
- to submit a proposal to the Sub-Committee with relevant amendments to the Model regulations.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee:

The Sub-Committee is invited to consider this proposal and take action as deemed appropriate.
