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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Bern, 24-28 March 2003)

LIMITED QUANTITIES

Transmitted by the Governments of France and the United Kingdom */

Executive Summary

To amend the limited quantity provisions of RID and ADR in order to align them more closely with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

Action to be Taken

- (a) to adopt the proposal set out in TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/6
- (b) to delete codes LQ20 and LQ21 and to attribute code LQ0 to the substances at present assigned to LQ20 and LQ21.

*/ Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2003/16.

Background and justification

During its session in March 2002, the Joint Meeting considered the Swiss document TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/6, which proposed amendments to the limited quantity provisions in the light of discussions at a working group held in Berne on 6-7 September 2001. The proposal was not adopted by the Joint Meeting, as it was considered by some delegates that the issue of mixed consignments of limited quantities had not been adequately addressed.

France and the United Kingdom consider that this was a misunderstanding of the objectives of the original working group, which were to rationalize the detail in Chapter 3.4 and to make some alignments, as far as possible, to the UN Modal Regulations.

Mixed Packing of all consignments is covered in 4.1.1.6 of ADR and is addressed in 3.4.1 of Chapter 3.4. There was no request to the working group to develop additional provisions on mixed packing. France and the United Kingdom consider that the Joint Meeting should address the proposals made in TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/6. If the meeting considers that there is a problem with mixed packing, this should be the subject of a separate proposal. The provisions of the current 2003 text are no different from those of the 1999 one.

France and the United Kingdom therefore consider that the changes proposed in TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/6 should now be adopted, with one further change, as set out below.

LQ20 and 21 apply to Class 8 Packing Group I substances such as fuming sulphuric acid. France and the United Kingdom do not believe that such shipments should be limited quantities. The UN revised quantity limits in 1999 and did not agree to extend them to substances of Class 8 PGI. (Note: there are no Class 6.1 PGI Limited Quantities in RID/ADR)

Proposal

Adopt the changes set out in TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/6, and, in addition:

In 3.2.1, Table A, column 7, replace all references to "LQ20" or "LQ21" with "LQ0".

In 3.4.6, replace existing words and figures opposite "LQ20" and "LQ21" with the word "(reserved)".
