



Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/46
15 April 2004

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**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-fifth session, 5-14 July 2004
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

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

Labelling and Placarding

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

Background

1. The United Nations Model Regulations specify that the label shall be affixed on a contrasting background (see 5.2.1.2 (c)). However, this is not in practice always readily achievable. For instance an infectious substances label may be placed on a white faced corrugated package.
2. The requirement for a contrasting background is not specified in the case of placards (see 5.3.1.1.2), consequently this may reduce the visibility of the placard; e.g. a Class 3 placard applied to a red painted portable tank will not stand out.
3. The first problem has obviously been recognised as both the air mode (see ICAO Technical Instructions Part 5, para. 5.3.2.3 (a) or IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations 7.2.6.1 (b)) and the United States of America (CFR 49 §172.406 (a) (3) (d)) provide that as an alternate to a contrasting background the label or placard must be delineated by a solid or dotted outer boundary.
4. There was some discussion on this topic during the 24th session in December when the expert from the United Kingdom presented UN/SCETD/24/INF 47. The expert from the United Kingdom promised to introduce the proposal as a working paper for the July 2004 session. The proposal is presented below for consideration by the Sub-Committee.

Proposal

1. Amend 5.2.1.2 (c) to read as follows:

“Shall be displayed on a background of contrasting colour, or must have a dotted or solid outer boundary, on the external surface of the package; and”
 2. Amend 5.2.2.2.1.1 by adding the following sentence at the end: “Where the label is not applied to a contrasting background, see 5.2.1.2 (c) then the label shall either have a dotted or a solid outer boundary line.
 3. Amend 5.2.2.2.1 by adding the following note at the end of the existing text:

“NOTE: where appropriate labels in 5.2.2.2.2 are shown with a dotted outer boundary, as provided for in 5.2.2.2.1.1. This is not required when the label is applied on a contrasting background.”.
 4. Amend 5.3.1.1.2 to sentence “Placards shall be displayed on a background of contrasting colour, or shall have either a dotted or solid outer boundary line.”
-