

# UN/SCETDG/30/INF.65

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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 CLASSIFICATION

Sub-Committee of Experts on the  
Transport of Dangerous Goods  
Thirtieth session  
Geneva, 4-12 (a.m.) December 2006

### Comments and recommendation on Document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2006/68

#### Transmitted by the IAEA

#### **Background**

For the 30th Session of the UNSCETDG, the expert from Austria submitted the Working Document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2006/68 on provisions concerning radioactive material marking for carriage of radioactive material under "exclusive use". This paper proposed: 5.3.2.1.1 (e) shall read as "*packaged radioactive material with a single UN number required to be shipped under exclusive use in or on a vehicle, or in a freight container*".

#### **Discussion**

According to the paper, the term "exclusive use consignment" is not correct since exclusive use does not regard the consignment but the conveyance or freight container wherein the consignment is carried. In view of the text in the IAEA provision 550 (l) and the apparent meaning of the IAEA provision 548, there seems to be no need to wait for a change in the wording of the IAEA provisions and the text in the UN Model regulations should be changed in any case.

Differences between IAEA and UN requirements relating to marking, labeling and placarding were identified by a consultant service meeting held in 2001. This issue was also discussed in papers submitted to PATRAM 2001. Now, the expert from Austria is raising a problem of control and enforcement, indicating that the regulations are not always very clear for enforcement authorities and that, in some cases, these authorities may not understand why the statement "EXCLUSIVE USE SHIPMENT" is not required in the transport document when certain radioactive materials are carried under exclusive use.

The IAEA supports the new wording as proposed by the expert from Austria. However, this Sub Committee may wish to consider that since the 1985 Edition of the IAEA Transport Regulations were published, the term "*exclusive use consignment*" has been used and the IAEA has no record of problems due to this difference up to now. There is, therefore, no need for an urgent change in the Model Regulations.

The IAEA believes that a clarification is necessary on why the statement "EXCLUSIVE USE SHIPMENT" is not required in the transport document when certain radioactive materials are carried under exclusive use. In this case, the Advisory Material for the IAEA Regulations (TS-G-1.1) would be the appropriate place for a text confirming that this statement is not required for shipments which are carried under exclusive use conditions but are not subject to such conditions.

In addition this Sub Committee may wish to take into consideration is that during the first meeting of the steering committee on denial of shipment held in Vienna in November 2006, identified disharmonization of regulations as one of causes for denial. In adopting the new wording – as proposed by the expert from Austria – without its equivalent in TS-R-1, more disharmonization may be introduced.

Finally, this is an issue involving Class 7 material and, as such, it may be appropriate to submit it firstly to the IAEA and/or discussion at the next meeting of the Working Group on Harmonization.

**Recommendation**

The IAEA recommends that the proposal from Austria for the wording in 5.3.2.1.1(e) be discussed by the working group on harmonization. This would comply with the agreement by which Class 7 issues would be firstly submitted to the IAEA and, at same time, allow the identification of options to solve this identified problem.

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