

**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals**

2 June 2010

Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods

Thirty-seventh session

Geneva, 21–30 June 2010

Item 11 of the provisional agenda:

Other business

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally
Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals

Nineteenth session

Geneva, 30 June–2 July 2010

Item 7 of the provisional agenda:

Other business

**Impact of the speed in pronouncing speeches on the quality of
the interpretation services provided to official UN meetings**

Note by the secretariat

Delegates participating in the sessions of the Sub-Committee are finally invited to take note of the attached request from the Chief, Central Planning and Coordination Service, Division of Conference Management.



MEMORANDUM

A - TO: See attached list

REF: SK/lp

DE - FROM: Ala Almoman, Chief
Central Planning and Coordination Service
Division of Conference Management

DATE: 19 May 2010

OBJET - SUBJECT: **Impact of the speed in pronouncing speeches on the quality of the interpretation services provided to official UN meetings**

1. As you are certainly aware, the UN General Assembly and its Committee on Conferences have repeatedly requested the Secretariat to take all necessary measures in order to ensure the provision of high quality conference services to Member States and other participants in official UN meetings.
2. In its latest legislation, namely A/RES/64/230 on the Pattern of Conferences and the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly (document A/64/580), the General Assembly reiterates this request in the interest of the smooth running of meetings and the provision of high quality conference services including those related to interpretation.
3. Based on the aforementioned General Assembly legislation and the mandate my Service is entrusted with, I would like to kindly request you, in your capacity as substantive Secretaries of meetings, **to draw the attention of the participants in your conferences/meetings of the need to maintain a normal speed whenever delivering speeches or making statements, so that the provision of the required high quality simultaneous interpretation services can be achieved to the entire satisfaction of all participants.**
4. Thank you in advance for your kind attention to this important issue.

cc: Mr. V. Gratchev, Director, Division of Conference Management
Mr. Z. Li, Chief, Interpretation Service

List of addressees – Memorandum dated 19 May 2010
Impact of the speed in pronouncing speeches on the quality
of the interpretation services provided to official UN meetings

Mr. Jarmo Sareva, Director
Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support
Branch (Geneva)
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

Ms. Susan Bartolo
Chef de Cabinet and Secretary of the Commission
Office of the Executive Secretary
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Mr. Eric Tistounet, Chief
Human Rights Council Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. Ibrahim Salama, Chief
Human Rights Treaties Branch
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Mr. Christopher Macfarquhar, Chief
Intergovernmental Affairs and Outreach Service (IAOS)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Mr. Salwa Dallalah, Manager
Conference Affairs Services
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Mr. Fabrizio Gentiloni, Chief
External Relations and Support Mobilization Branch
Office for Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs

Ms. Catherine Walker, Secretary of the Executive Committee
Secretariat and Inter-Organization Service,
Division of External Relations
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees