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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****Sixth session**

Geneva, 14 December 2012

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda****Provisional agenda and annotations for the sixth session<sup>1 2</sup>**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 14.30 on Friday 14 December 2012

**I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council.
4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2011– 2012.
5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2011– 2012.

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<sup>1</sup> For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgcomm/ac10age.html>). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

<sup>2</sup> Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than two weeks prior to the session by email ([laurence.berthet@unece.org](mailto:laurence.berthet@unece.org)) or by fax (+41 22 917 00 39). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 72106). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>

6. Programme of work for the biennium 2013 – 2014:
  - (a) Programme of work and related proposals;
  - (b) Calendar of meetings.
7. Draft resolution 2013/... of the Economic and Social Council.
8. Any other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

## II. Background information

### Status and membership

1. The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council, and was previously known as the “Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods”. It was reconfigured by the Economic and Social Council’s resolution 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, with two sub-committees, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) and the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee) (refer also to document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/7). The first session of the Committee was held in Geneva from 11 to 12 December 2002, and the report was circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/29 and Add. 1-2. The second session was held in Geneva on 10 December 2004, and the report was circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/32 and –Add. 1-3 and –Add.3/Corr.1. The third session was held in Geneva on 15 December 2006 and the report was circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/34 and Add. 1–3, Add.1/Corr.1, Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3/Corr.1. The fourth session was held in Geneva on 12 December 2008 and the report was circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/36 and -36/Corr.1, and Add. 1-3, Add.1/Corr.1 to 3 and Add.2/Corr.1. The fifth session was held in Geneva on 10 December 2010 and the report was circulated as document ST/SG/AC.10/38 and Add. 1-3 and Add.1/Corr.1.

2. Pursuant to the Economic and Social Council’s decisions 2001/201B, 2002/201C, 2003/201D, 2005/201C, 2008/201C, 2009/201C, 2010/201B and 2010/201E the membership of the Committee is 40, as follows:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark<sup>3</sup>, Finland, France, Germany, Greece<sup>3</sup>, India<sup>4</sup>, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland<sup>3</sup>, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico<sup>4</sup>, Morocco<sup>4</sup>, Netherlands, New Zealand<sup>3</sup>, Nigeria<sup>3</sup>, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar<sup>3</sup>, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal<sup>3</sup>, Serbia<sup>3</sup>, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland<sup>4</sup>, Ukraine<sup>3</sup>, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia<sup>3</sup>.

### Documentation

3. The documentation relating to the Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/...

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<sup>3</sup> Committee and GHS Sub-Committee only.

<sup>4</sup> Committee and TDG Sub-Committee only.

4. The documentation relating to the TDG Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/...
5. The documentation relating to the GHS Sub-Committee is issued under the symbol ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/...
6. Documents are issued in English and French only, which are the working languages of the secretariat.
7. All documents are available on the web site of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), whose secretariat provides the secretariat services for the Committee: <http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm>.

### **Interpretation**

8. Interpretation during the session will be provided in Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

### **Rules of procedures**

9. In accordance with Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, Chapters VI and VIII to XII of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council apply to the proceedings of the Committee and of its sub-committees (refer also to documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/1 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2001/6).

### **Mandate**

10. In accordance with resolution 1999/65, the mandate of the Committee is to deal with strategic issues rather than technical issues. It is not envisaged that it would review, change or revisit technical recommendations of the sub-committees.
11. Its main functions are:
  - (a) To approve the work programmes of the sub-committees in the light of available resources;
  - (b) To coordinate strategic and policy directions in areas of shared interests and overlap;
  - (c) To give formal endorsement to the recommendations of the sub-committees and provide the mechanism for channelling them to the Economic and Social Council;
  - (d) Facilitate and coordinate the smooth running of the sub-committees.

### **Timetable**

12. The length of the session has been limited to half a day. It will be preceded by the forty-second session of the TDG Sub-Committee (3 – 11 December 2012) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/83 and -/Add.1) and the twenty-fourth session of the GHS Sub-Committee (12 – 14 (a.m) December 2012) (agenda: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/47 and -/Add.1).

### **III. Annotations**

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

13. In accordance with the established practice, the first item on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

#### **2. Election of officers**

14. In accordance with the established practice, the Committee shall elect one President and one or several vice-presidents from among the representatives of its members.

#### **3. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council**

15. The resolution of the Economic and Social Council of relevance to the work of the Committee during the biennium 2011-2012 is Resolution 2011/25 of 27 July 2011 (Work of the Committee) (see informal documents INF.5 - INF.8, submitted to the fortieth session of the TDG Sub-Committee and the twenty-second session of the GHS Sub-Committee respectively).

#### **4. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 2011-2012**

16. The reports of the TDG Sub-Committee on its thirty-ninth, fortieth, and forty-first sessions are contained in documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/78; ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/80 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/82 and -82/Add.1.

17. The list of draft amendments to the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations and Manual of Tests and Criteria adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2012/68.

18. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's forty-second session (3 – 11 December 2012) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its forty-second session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or in the draft form prepared by the secretariat, as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2012/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2012/CRP.4 and addenda for changes to the consolidated list of draft amendments. The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub-Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

#### **5. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2011–2012**

19. The reports of the GHS Sub-Committee on its twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions have been issued as documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/42, ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/44 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/46.

20. The list of draft amendments to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) adopted so far by the Sub-Committee has been consolidated in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2012/29.

21. These draft amendments are still subject to a final reading at the Sub-Committee's twenty-fourth session (12 – 14 December 2012) where additional amendment proposals should also be discussed. The report of the Sub-Committee on its twenty-fourth session will be made available to the Committee either in its final form or under the draft form prepared by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2012/CRP.3 and addenda for the report proper and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2012/CRP.4 and addenda). The Committee may wish to endorse the draft amendments adopted by the Sub Committee and any other recommendations made by it.

## 6. Programme of work for the biennium 2013–2014

### (a) Programme of work and related proposals

The Committee should consider the proposals made by the TDG and the GHS Sub-Committees at their December 2012 sessions for their respective programmes of work, and approve them in the light of resources available for 2013–2014.

### (b) Calendar of meetings

The total number of meeting days allocated to the Committee and its sub-committees by the Economic and Social Council for a biennium is 38 days (i.e. 76 meetings of three-hour duration). On the basis of the experience for the biennium 2011–2012, the following dates have been provisionally scheduled by the secretariat for 2013–2014:

24–28 June 2013:	TDG Sub-Committee, 43rd session
1–3 (a.m) July 2013:	GHS Sub-Committee, 25th session
25 November – 4 (a.m) December 2013:	TDG Sub-Committee, 44th session
4 (p.m) – 6 December 2013:	GHS Sub-Committee, 26th session
23 June – 2 (a.m) July 2014:	TDG Sub-Committee, 45th session
2 (p.m) – 4 July 2014:	GHS Sub-Committee, 27th session
1 – 9 December 2014:	TDG Sub-Committee, 46th session
10 – 12 (a.m) December 2014:	GHS Sub-Committee, 28th session
12 (p.m) December 2014:	Committee, 7th session.

The Committee may wish to consider the allocation of meetings for each sub-committee depending on their respective programmes of work.

## 7. Draft resolution 2013/... of the Economic and Social Council

22. The Committee may wish to note that both sub-committees will have prepared their own contribution to the draft resolution to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for adoption at its 2013 substantive session. The Committee should combine the two parts and adopt the draft resolution to be submitted to the Council.

## 8. Any other business

23. At the time of writing, there is no issue under this agenda item.

**9. Adoption of the report**

24. The Committee should adopt the report on its sixth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

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