

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

3 December 2012

Forty-second session

Geneva, 3 – 11 December 2012

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency

Outcome of TRANSSC 25

Transmitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

As a part of the harmonisation process TRANSSC reviewed all papers of relevance that had been approved in the current biennium. Specific issues are dealt with in other papers; however some less significant comments are collated here for information.

The process of review has brought the attention of TRANSSC to several issues that should be considered during the next review process in order to bring about greater harmonisation. It has also confirmed the need for close cooperation between committee members.

Other than the need to consider specific comments in response to papers for this session no action is required. However the committee is invited to note that as an outcome of the review TRANSSC has agreed that it is appropriate to review some of the marking and placarding requirements in the IAEA regulations to bring about agreement with UN text.

In relation to the 42nd Session the following consensus views were developed:

Lamps containing small amounts of dangerous substances

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/dgac10c3/ST-SG-AC10-C3-2012-76e.pdf>

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/dgac10c3/UN-SCETDG-42-INF03e.pdf>

All 3 options in paper ST-SG-AC10-C3-2012-76e.pdf consider exemption limits in grams, which is not directly applicable to radioactive substances. Also the proposed packing specifications are not based on safety considerations but on product quality considerations (protect lamps from breaking). The proposals are unacceptable for radioactive materials.

In SSR6 the concept of alternative activity limits was introduced (par 403b) to enable issues such as this to be accommodated in the Transport Regulations and the existing framework for the transport safety.

Articles containing small quantities of dangerous goods

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/dgac10c3/ST-SG-AC10-C3-2012-77e.pdf>

TRANSSC has no comment at this time but would wish to be kept aware of the issues.

Neutron radiation detectors

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/dgac10c3/ST-SG-AC10-C3-2012-60e.pdf>

There was agreement that the definition of neutron detector is only applicable to this exemption. Since this term is only used for this exemption it should be limited to this particular exemption. The definition should be for “Boron trifluoride neutron detectors”

Class 7 placard

<http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/dgac10c3/ST-SG-AC10-C3-2012-96e.pdf>

(Note: IAEA advice on the issue raised in para 8 was sought, due to inconsistency with general rule)

Ch. 5.2.2.2.1.1: Meaning of *** should be amended with the underlined text:

*** The class or division symbol or, for divisions 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6, the division number and for label number 7E the word “FISSILE” shall be shown in this top half”

An issue was identified: “mark” versus “marking”. This is used inconsistently in UNOB and SSR6. The suggestion is to review all text to ensure consistent use of “mark(s)”, “label(s)”, “placard(s)” and “marking”, “labelling”, “placarding”. “mark(s)”, “label(s)”, “placard(s)” refers to items and “marking”, “labelling”, “placarding” refers to the action.

Ch. 5.3.1.2.1. Present documents of SSR6 and UN are inline, so this issue should be considered with the next revision cycle of SSR6. The WG does not see an obstacle for harmonisation to 12.5 mm.

With regard to papers from previous sessions:

UN/SCETDG/39/INF.28 para 34

Pressure vessel v pressure receptacle

Pressure vessel is a common term in IAEA terminology. This change clarifies the issue by standardizing on pressure receptacle elsewhere.

UN/SCETDG/39/INF.41 para 3

Assignment of SP 172 to UN Nos 2977 and 2978

ADR and RID have wrongly assigned SP 172 to these numbers

UN/SCETDG/39/INF.62

Marking size

This should be considered during the next IAEA review cycle.
