
Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

12 September 2013

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 17-27 September 2013

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Harmonization with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Assignment of Special Provision 172 to UN Nos. 2977 and 2978

Note by the secretariat

1. At the forty-second session of the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods in December 2012, the IAEA informed the Sub-Committee that RID and ADR wrongly assigned special provision 172 to UN Nos. 2977 and 2978 (Uranium hexafluoride entries) (See informal document INF.55 submitted at the 42nd session).
 2. The Joint Meeting may wish to note that SP172 has not been assigned to these two entries in the UN Model Regulations mainly because the subsidiary risk 8 is specifically assigned to them and because uranium hexafluoride in quantities of 0.1 kg or more is required to be carried in specific pressure receptacles which are subject to competent authority approval. For quantities less than 0.1 kg, the new entry UN No. 3507 will have to be used in future, provided that the conditions for carriage as excepted packages are met.
 3. Therefore it seems to the secretariat that assignment of special provision 172 would be relevant only:
 - (a) If the Joint Meeting considers that subsidiary risks other than class 8 have to be taken into account (which is also a question still under discussion by the UN Sub-Committee, see ST/AG/AC.10/C.3/84, paras 56-58); but in this case the secretariat thinks that it would be preferable to indicate the subsidiary risks in question rather than to leave some uncertainty in the regulations;
 - (b) For quantities less than 0.1 kg contained in packagings other than those prescribed for quantities of 0.1 kg or more and not meeting the conditions for excepted packages, if this is not a theoretical case .
 4. In view of the above, the secretariat suggests that, for the purpose of harmonization with the UN Model Regulations, special provision 172 should be deleted from column (6) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 against UN Nos. 2977 and 2978.
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