

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

23 November 2016

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Fiftieth session

Geneva, 28 November–6 December 2016

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee
on its forty-seventh, forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions
and pending issues: listing, classification and packing**

Polymerizing substances

Submitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

Introduction

1. The United Kingdom supports the German paper on polymerizing substances (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2016/70) in principle. However, in our view, the second amendment contained within paragraph 8 of the paper should be amended because polymerizing substances/substances liable to polymerization other than those of Division 4.1 (UN 3531 to UN3534), are covered in 5.4.1.5.4.
2. The United Kingdom has also considered the wider implications of the introduction of UN numbers 3531 to 3534. In our view, as a result amendments should be made to 3.1.2.6.

Proposals

3. Amend the first sentence of 5.4.1.5.5 as follows (new text underlined):
“For self-reactive substances and polymerizing substances of Division 4.1 and organic peroxides...”
4. Amend the first sentence of 3.1.2.6 to read as follows (new text underlined):
“Except for self-reactive substances and polymerizing substances of Division 4.1 and organic peroxides...”
5. Amend 3.1.2.6 (a) to read as follows (new text underlined, old text ~~stricken through~~):
“For liquids and solids where the SADT ~~SAPT~~ (measured without or with inhibitor, when chemical stabilization is applied) as offered for transport is 50°C or less for packages and IBCs, or 45°C or less for portable tanks, is less than or equal to that prescribed in 2.4.2.5.2, special provision 386 of Chapter 3.3 and the provisions of 7.1.6 apply.”

Justification

6. The amendment proposed within paragraph 4, to the first sentence of 3.1.2.6 should in our view be made because UN 3531 to UN 3534 already have “STABILIZED” or “TEMPERATUE CONTROLLED” as part of their proper shipping name.

7. The amendment proposed within paragraph 5, to 3.1.2.6 (a) should in our view be made because polymerizing substances of Division 4.1 are now excluded, as well as self-reactive substances and organic peroxides. In addition the relevant SAPT figures are given in 2.4.2.5.2, whereas the relevant SADT figures for other liquids and solids are not given in Part 2.
