

## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

103rd session

Geneva, 6-10 November 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Work of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting

30 October 2017

### Classification of infected animal materials

#### Transmitted by the Government of the Republic of Latvia

##### *Summary*

<b>Executive summary:</b>	Deletion of 2.2.62.1.12.2 could lead to ambiguous classification of infected animal materials.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	Discussion
<b>Reference documents:</b>	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26/Add.1; INF.3

### Introduction

1. According to 2.2.62.1.1. of ADR 2017, “infectious substances of Class 6.2 are substances which are known or are reasonably expected to contain pathogens. Pathogens are defined as microorganisms (including bacteria, viruses, rickettsiae, parasites, fungi) and other agents such as prions, which can cause disease in humans or animals”.
2. Provisions in 2.2.62.1.12 deal with infected animals:
  - 2.2.62.1.12.1 refers to intentionally infected live animals;
  - 2.2.62.1.12.2 deals with lifeless animal material and states: “animal material affected by pathogens of Category A or by pathogens which would be assigned to Category A in cultures only, shall be assigned to UN 2814 or UN 2900 as appropriate. Animal material affected by pathogens of Category B, other than those which would be assigned to Category A if they were in cultures, shall be assigned to UN 3373”.
3. In accordance with paragraph 2.2.62.1.4.1, category A infectious substance is a substance which is carried in a form that, when exposure to it occurs, is capable of causing permanent disability, life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals. Indicative examples of substances meeting these criteria are given in the table in 2.2.62.1.4.1., which states that African swine fever virus (*cultures only*) is classified as a category A infectious substance.
4. According to decisions taken by the Joint Meeting RID/ADR/ADN (WP.15/AC.1) at the 2017 autumn session (19-29. September), documents

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26/Add.1, reflected in the document INF.3 of the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) 2017 autumn session (6-10. November), 2.2.62.1.12.2 has been deleted from the 2019 ADR.

## Discussion

5. In our point of view, according to ADR 2017, lifeless swine carcasses naturally infected with the African swine fever virus should be classified as animal material UN No. 2900 INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, AFFECTING ANIMALS only.

6. Some interpretations point out, that the table in ADR 2.2.62.1.4.1., for the UN No. 2900, contains a comment in brackets (cultures only), thus the rules of ADR are binding only in cases, when transporting laboratory derived infectious materials (in tubes etc.), and not in cases when swine's had been infected naturally. The abovementioned interpretation states that lifeless swine carcasses naturally infected with the African swine fever should not be classified as dangerous goods of Class 6.2.

7. We would like to ask WP.15 to provide the following explanations in line with the context and scope of the 2.2.62.1.12.2:

a) how should ADR 2017 be applied to the carriage of lifeless swine carcasses naturally infected with the African swine fever virus and;

b) how will this issue be interpreted if 2.2.62.1.12.2 is deleted, according to the decision made by the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting?

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