

OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2023/11

14 November 2023

Original: French

RID: 16th Session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group
(London, 20 to 23 November 2023)

Subject: 114th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 6 to 10 November 2023)

Transmitted by the Secretariat

Extracts from the draft report of the 114th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 6 to 10 November 2023) (documents ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/R.3 and Adds as well as ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/R.4 and Adds

I. Attendance

1. The Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods held its 114th session from 6 to 10 November 2023, with Ms. A. Roumier (France) as Chair.
2. Representatives from the following countries took part in the session: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.
3. Representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Saudi Arabia also took part in the session, as provided for in paragraph 11 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe. The representative of Morocco took part in the session as a full member in respect of questions relating to the Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), in accordance with rule 1 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Working Party.
4. The European Union was represented.
5. The following intergovernmental organization was represented: Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF).

6. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Association of the Body and Trailer Building Industry (CLCCR), European Confederation of Fuel Distributors (ECFD), European Federation of Waste Management and Environmental Services (FEAD), Fuels Europe, International Association of Dangerous Goods Safety Advisers (IASA), International Organization of Automobile Manufacturers (OICA) and International Road Transport Union (IRU). The EuroMed project was also represented.

(...)

IV. Status of the Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and related issues (agenda item 3)

A. Status of the Agreement

8. There were no changes to the status of ADR (54 contracting parties) nor to that of the Protocol of amendment of 1993 (40 contracting parties) since the last session.

B. Protocol of amendment of 1993

9. The Working Party encouraged the countries that had not yet deposited the required legal instruments for the Protocol to enter into force (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Morocco, North Macedonia, Nigeria, San Marino, Tajikistan and Uganda) to take the necessary measures to ratify or accede to it so that it could come into effect.

C. Translation of ADR into Arabic

10. A representative of Euromed TSP announced that the Arabic translation of ADR 2023 would soon be available. A member of the secretariat confirmed that the relevant United Nations services had been consulted and that discussions were under way to find a permanent solution for the translation of amendments every two years and the publication of the corresponding consolidated amended versions. The Working Party welcomed the progress made.

(...)

V. Work of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting (agenda item 4)

Documents: [ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2023/23/Add.1](#),
[ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/170](#) and
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/170/Add.1 (report of the Joint Meeting on its autumn 2023 session)

Informal documents: [INF.5/Rev.1](#) (Secretariat)

A. General

13. The Working Party endorsed the amendments adopted by the Joint Meeting with some changes (see annex). The amendment to 6.2.1.5.4 was deleted, as it was not relevant to ADR.

B. Specific issues

1. Carriage in bulk of specific categories of wastes containing asbestos (UN Nos. 2590 and 2212)

Informal documents: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part II (Secretariat)
[INF.7](#) (France)

14. The Working Party adopted the texts relating to the transport of asbestos-containing waste with editorial changes and taking into account the modifications proposed in informal document INF.7 aimed at replacing the term "skip" by "load compartment" in provisions CW 38/CV 38 and AP 12 (see annex). The term "load compartment" was agreed on for the English version.

2. Transport of waste in inner packagings packed together in an outer packaging

Informal documents: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part II (Secretariat)
[INF.14](#) (FEAD)

15. The Working Party adopted the texts relating to the transport of waste proposed by the Joint Meeting with the addition proposed by FEAD in document INF.14 and editorial changes (see annex).

3. Pending issues

Informal document: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part I (Secretariat)

16. The Working Party noted that the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods would be discussing a proposal from the ad hoc working group on harmonization of the Joint Meeting, conveyed by the secretariat, to include a reference to sodium-ion cells and batteries in 2.0.5.2 (2.1.5.2 of ADR) and in packing instructions P 006 and LP 03 (see [ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/57](#)). The Working Party indicated that it would be prepared to take the changes into account at its next session if they were adopted.

Informal document: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part III (Secretariat)

17. The Working Party provisionally adopted the amendments to chapter 1.8 adopted in square brackets by the Joint Meeting and reproduced in part III of informal document INF.5/Rev.1 (see annex). These amendments will be definitively adopted at the next session of the Working Party after confirmation by the Joint Meeting at its spring 2024 session.
18. The Working Party adopted the amendments to reference EN 14025:2023 in ADR, as this standard had been approved by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) prior to the session.
19. In respect of the other amendments in part III, the Working Party noted that the dates of some of the standards adopted for reference by the Joint Meeting were placed in square brackets because the standards had not yet been published. It provisionally adopted the amendments relating to those standards, subject to their publication before May 2024 (see annex).

4. Additional editorial amendment

Informal document: [INF.19](#) (OTIF secretariat)

20. The Working Party adopted the proposed change to 1.8.3.11 (b) (see annex).

(...)

5. Transport documents: draft amendment to 5.4.0.2

Document: [ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/10](#) (IRU)

Informal documents: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part I (Secretariat)
[INF.24](#) (Sweden)

35. Most of the delegations that spoke were not in favour of the alternative proposal by Sweden which would require identification of goods for the whole transport unit rather than according to the vehicle in which they were located.
36. The Working Party confirmed that it was taking up the proposed amendment to 5.4.0.2 adopted by the Joint Meeting and set out in informal document INF.5/Rev.1. It noted that the amendment corresponded to option 1 in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/10.
37. Some delegations considered that the Working Party lacked the necessary objectivity on the use of electronic documentation to allow it to determine whether the new provisions were likely to pose any problem at the point of implementation.

(...)

VI. Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B of ADR (agenda item 5)

(...)

B. Miscellaneous proposals

1. Modification of texts adopted at the 113th session

Document: [ECE/TRANS/WP.15/262](#) (report of the Working Party on its 113th session)

Informal document: [INF.5/Rev.1](#), part I (Secretariat)

21. The Working Party adopted editorial changes to the text of new provision AP 11 of 7.3.3.2.7 adopted at its previous session and reproduced in part I of informal document INF.5/Rev.1 (see annex).

(...)

6. Definition of a closed vehicle

Informal document: INF.8 (Netherlands)

29. The Working Group agreed that the current definitions could lead to confusion as to the types of vehicles they covered and that the amendments proposed by the representative of the Netherlands should be discussed at the Joint Meeting, also taking into consideration the definitions of closed and sheeted wagons. The representative of the Netherlands would present a revised proposal to the Joint Meeting in the light of the comments received.

(...)

8. Actual holding time – tank containers and portable tanks carried on road journeys only

Informal document: [INF.16](#) (Netherlands)

38. The Working Party noted that, at the spring 2024 session of the Joint Meeting, the representative of the Netherlands would present a proposed amendment aimed at exempting portable tanks and tank-containers used for road transport only from the calculation of holding time.
39. As the subject was specific to road transport, the Working Party agreed that it could still adopt a proposed amendment for entry into force on 1 January 2025 at its next session, depending on the outcome of the discussions on the matter in the Joint Meeting.

(...)

VII. Interpretation of ADR (agenda item 6)

(...)

2. Interpretation of 4.1.1.15

Informal document: [INF.20](#) (Hungary)

44. The delegations that took part confirmed that a period of use of less than five years could be provided for in the type approvals for plastic drums, plastic jerricans, rigid plastic IBCs and composite IBCs with a plastic inner receptacle if such a shorter period of use was prescribed in ADR, for example in the packing instructions.
45. Some delegations confirmed that derogations for use beyond five years in accordance with 4.1.1.15 had been granted by the competent authorities that issued the type approvals in their countries, subject to certain conditions. Other delegations indicated that they did not grant such derogations.
46. The question arose as to whether such derogations were the responsibility of the competent authority in the country where the type approval had been issued, or that in the country of use. The representative of Switzerland recalled that the matter would be discussed by the Joint Meeting's informal working group on references to competent authorities. She invited delegations interested in participating in the work of the informal group to contact her.

(...)

IX. Programme of work (agenda item 8)

(...)

B. 2025 amendments

33. The Working Party requested the secretariat to prepare a consolidated list of all the amendments that it had adopted for entry into force on 1 January 2025 so that they could be made the subject of an official proposal, in accordance with the procedure set out in article 14 of ADR, and which, following usual practice, the Chair would be responsible for transmitting to the depositary through her Government. The notification would have to be issued no later than 1 July 2024, with a reference to 1 January 2025 as the scheduled date of entry into force. The document would be circulated under the symbol ECE/TRANS/

WP.15/265.

34. The Working Party also requested the secretariat to publish the consolidated text of ADR as it would be amended on 1 January 2025 sufficiently in advance to prepare for its effective implementation before the entry into force of the amendments in question.

(...)

C. Efficiency and methods of work of the Working Party

Document: [ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/15](#) (Secretariat)

(...)

79. The Working Party adopted Proposal 3 of document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2023/15 to amend the Rules concerning documents to be submitted to the Working Party, with the correction of a typing error in the English version.

80. The Working Party amended its rules concerning the submission of informal documents, to read as follows:

"Informal documents may be submitted for consideration at a session provided:

- (a) That they contain specific commentaries or additional information concerning a new document included in the provisional agenda and that it has not therefore been possible to submit them in time;
- (b) That they are submitted solely for information purposes and require no decision from the Working Party;
- (c) That they are intended to correct flagrant errors in existing texts;
- (d) That they call for an initial opinion about the interpretation of existing texts;
- (e) That they contain the report of an informal working group."

81. The Working Party noted that there was no rule concerning the language of informal documents and invited delegations to submit their informal documents in several of the Group's working languages whenever possible.

(...)

XI. Adoption of the report (agenda item 11)

85. The Working Party adopted the report of its 114th session and its annex on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Draft amendments to annexes A and B of ADR for entry into force on 1 January 2025

The 114th session of WP.15 (Geneva, 6 to 10 November 2023) adopted amendments that have repercussions for RID and which are therefore reproduced below. Amendments that only concern ADR are not shown.

Amendments to consolidated texts adopted by the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting in 2022 and 2023 and by the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group in November 2022 (see [OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2023/10](#))

Part I**Chapter 1.8**

1.8.3.11 In the amendments to paragraph (b), insert the following first indent:

"– In the second indent, delete:

"and tank-containers"."

[Reference document: informal document INF.19]

Chapter 3.3

SP 388 [The amendment in the French version does not apply to the English text.]

Chapter 4.1**4.1.4.1**

P 303 [The amendment in the French version does not apply to the English text.]

Part II**Chapter 4.1**

4.1.1.5.3 Delete the square brackets at the beginning and at the end of the amendment.

In paragraph (b), replace "[xxxx]" by:

"4.1.1.5, 4.1.1.5.1, 4.1.1.5.2, 4.1.1.21, 4.1.3.1 to 4.1.3.5, 4.1.3.7, 4.1.4, 6.1.5.2.1, 6.5.6.1.2 and 6.6.5.2.1".

[Reference document: informal document INF.14]

Chapter 5.4

5.4.1.1.3 Delete the square brackets.

5.4.1.1.3.3 [The amendment in the French version does not apply to the English text.]

5.4.1.1.4 In the first sub-paragraph, replace "the transport document shall be marked" by:

"the following statement shall be included in the transport document:".

In the second paragraph, replace "sub-paragraphs (b) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) of special provision 678" by:

"special provision 678 (b)".

Chapter 7.3

7.3.3.2.7

AP 12 At all instances, replace "[loading compartment]" by:

"load compartment".

In the second sub-paragraph, for "[compartment]", delete the square brackets.

In the sub-paragraph after paragraph (b), delete the square brackets.

In the fifth sub-paragraph, replace "skip" by:

"load compartment".

Chapter 7.5

7.5.11

CW 38 In the first sub-paragraph, amend the following:

– In first sentence, replace "[skips]" by:

"load compartments".

– In the second sentence, replace "[Skips]" by:

"They".

In the second sub-paragraph, amend the following

– In the first sentence, replace "the [skips]" by:

"the load compartments".

– In the second sentence, replace "the [skip]" by:

"the load compartment".

In the third sub-paragraph, amend the following:

– In the first sentence, replace "from one [skip] to another" by:

"from one load compartment to another".

- In the second sentence, replace "into the same [skip]" by:
"into the same load compartment".

In the fifth sub-paragraph, amend the following:

- Replace "in removable [skips]" by:
"in removable load compartments".
- Replace "the [skip] on the ground" by:
"the latter placed on the ground".

In the sixth sub-paragraph, in the first sentence, replace "the [skip]" by:
"the load compartment".

Part III

Chapter 6.8

6.8.2.6.1 For standard "EN 14025:2023", delete the square brackets.

The other amendments in part III remain in square brackets until the next session of the standing working group.

Amendments to document [OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2023/5](#) provided it is adopted by the standing working group

7.3.3.2.7

AP 11 In paragraphs 1.3 and in 2, replace "security" by:
"safety".

[The amendment to paragraph 4.5 in the French version does not apply to the English text.]
