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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Bern, 7-11 March 2005)

MISCELLANEOUS

**Record of the Forum on the provisions concerning the safety adviser
and their application/implementation in States members of COTIF,
Contracting Parties to ADR and States applying ADN**

Paris/Le Creusot, 15-17 June 2004

Transmitted by the Government of France*

1. At its September 2003 session, the Joint Meeting defined the framework prescribed for the renewal of safety advisers' certificates and in view of the mutual recognition of the certificate within the European Union it seemed appropriate to exchange views on the safety adviser's function and more particularly the examination.
2. The Government of France therefore organized a Forum on safety advisers and the application/implementation of provisions in States members of COTIF, Contracting Parties to ADR and States applying ADN. The list of participants can be found in annex 2.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2005/12.

3. In order to assess the situation, a questionnaire was drawn up and 21 States replied. The replies served as a basis for discussion. The questionnaire and the replies are reproduced as an addendum to this document. The record of the Forum was prepared following the structure of the questionnaire, and appears as an annex to this document.

4. The Government of France invites the Joint Meeting to discuss this record and the conclusions of the Forum.

Annex 1

1. Conditions for sitting the examination

With regard to the conditions of age and/or standard of education required, a broad consensus emerged that there was no need to set them since the standard of the examination itself was such as to ensure qualification irrespective of these criteria.

There was, however, discussion of the obligation of prior training referred to in 1.8.3.8, whether such training has been provided as part of a specific course or organized in the field. It was recalled that the competent authority does not have to require proof of this training. The Joint Meeting has already discussed this issue.

In any case, if the question of training is to be discussed again, it can only be within the Joint Meeting.

2. Organization of the examination

All the participants acknowledged the need to distinguish between the functions of teaching and examining. A body would not be prohibited from taking on the two functions, but their independence must be ensured.

This independence could be the subject of a recommendation.

3. Examination arrangements

This is a problem for the competent authority. Two questions gave rise to discussion: the anonymity of the examination papers and the use of a microcomputer.

Without calling in question the responsibility of the competent authority, it is proposed that 1.8.3.10 should be amended to specify that the competent authority must take all necessary steps to ensure that the examination is impartial, consistent and held successfully.

4. Databank

A distinction should be drawn between the databank of questions used to establish part of the examination topics and the compendium of examination questions and topics intended to be transmitted as part of the exchange of information.

(a) Databank

No provision is made for it in the texts but it exists in a very general sense. **A consensus emerged that it should be made official and segmented according to the points listed under 1.8.3.11 and 1.8.3.12 of ADR.**

The notion of a single databank accessible to all member States was not adopted because of insurmountable difficulties to date (material, financial, legal and institutional).

(b) Compendium of examination topics

European Directive 2000/18/EC provides that the countries of the European Union are to prepare and submit a compendium of examination questions to the European Commission, and that feedback will be provided. This obligation has not been enforced.

In that the setting-up of a database of questions and its incorporation in the regulations was deemed useful, the possibility was discussed of establishing an exchange of information on the transmission of these databases.

Some States have recommended that examination topics already set should be sent in, since they consider that their database should remain confidential and not be made public. Others, however, have said that they are ready to transmit databases of questions. In certain cases the database has already been published nationally. The UNECE secretariat said that it was prepared to collect this information and consider the possibility of translating it into English, French and Russian, provided that it was submitted in one of these languages, that it had been approved by the Joint Meeting and that the translation of documents of this type was accepted under the rules in force in the United Nations. **In view of the reservations expressed by some but also the considerable willingness to establish cooperation, an exchange of information of a voluntary nature could be organized as follows:**

- **States which so wished should transmit their database of questions to the UNECE secretariat along with case study topics already set;**
- **In lieu of complete databases, examination topics already set may be sent;**
- **The information may be placed on the UNECE web site, provided that an adequate level of protection (password) is established;**
- **The State transmitting the data must ensure that its data are up-to-date;**
- **The information should be transmitted in the language of the original State which should not have to cover translation costs; the State interested in consulting these data should make this effort.**

The various aspects will be formalized by UNECE.

5. Examination standard (harmonization), examination standard (multi-criterion analysis)

After a lengthy discussion, a consensus emerged that a safety adviser should be capable:

- of understanding the regulations;
- of applying the regulations;
- of putting the message across in his undertaking.

The examination should be a means of ensuring this competence. The participants did not, however, arrive at an agreement on the criteria for achieving these objectives.

It was therefore decided to propose to the Joint Meeting that a training and examinations group should be established with responsibility for formalizing these various standards of examination requirements in order to ensure the standard of competence defined above.

The database of questions and the examination topics already set transmitted under the exchange referred to in section 4 would provide core material for the work of the group.

6. Choice of subjects

Purely informative. The decisive role of the experts was noted.

7. Correction of examinations

Purely informative. **The participants would like the training and examinations working group that is to be established (see section 5) to address the principle of an eliminatory mark (questionnaire and/or case study and/or the examination as a whole).**

8. Issue of the certificate

Purely informative.

Miscellaneous

At the end of the meeting, the participants raised various questions relating to the safety adviser, such as:

- Declaration of safety advisers to the competent authority by undertakings;
- Safety adviser: employee of the undertaking or external consultant?
- Number of sites (or undertakings) under the direct responsibility of a safety adviser.

With regard to this last question, the specification of a quantitative limit was considered to be difficult, although practice in a member State attracted the interest of the participants.

A safety adviser must carry out a regulation audit prior to any contractual commitment with a potential customer undertaking in order to ascertain the level of the workload and time to be given to it within the undertaking.

Conclusion

The Joint Meeting should continue its work by establishing a training and examinations group responsible for more detailed exchanges and the formalization of the examination requirements in order to ensure the level of competence specified by the regulations.

Annex 2

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE FORUM

The safety adviser and the introduction of the examination
in the countries of RID/ADR

State		First name	Name	Organization - Post
A	Austria	Mr. Johann	HAYERHOFER	Department of Dangerous Goods, Ministry of Transport
B	Belgium	Mr. René	WAERZEGGERS	Service Fédéral de l'Etat - Engineer
BU	Bulgaria	Mr. Nikolay	KIRKOV	Association des Entreprises Bulgares de Transports Internationaux et des Routes - Expert
CH	Switzerland	Mrs. Nathalie	HAGMANN	Safety Training, President
CH	Switzerland	Mr. Roland	MEISTER	Training body - Expert
CH	Switzerland	Mr. Beat	SCHMIED	Swiss Federal Roads Authority - Expert
CH	Switzerland	Mr. Stefan	SCHNELL	Federal Office of Transport - Expert
CZ	Czech-Republic	Mr. Jiri	KONIG	Transport Research Centre - Research Specialist
CZ	Czech-Republic	Mr. Lubos	RADJ	Ministry of Transport - Ministerial Councillor
CZ	Czech-Republic	Mr. Stanislas	DE KOJ	CD Company Ed Institute - Specialist
D	Germany	Mr. Klaus	LAUFHUTTE	Bunderministerium - Assistant Head of Division
D	Germany	Mrs. Beate	SCHLEICHER	Industrie und Handelskammer Nord Westfalen
E	Spain	Mrs. Aranzazu	VINYALS CASADO	Generalitat de Catalunya/Dirección General de Transportes - Inspector de Transportes
E	Spain	Mrs. Cristina	JIMENEZ PADILLA	Generalitat de Catalunya/Dirección General de Transportes - Coordinadora de la Inspección del Transporte
E	Spain	Mr. J. Eduardo	GOMEZ GOMEZ	Ministerio de Fomento/Dirección General de Transportes por Carretera - Jefe del Servicio de Mercancías Peligrosas y Perecederas
F	France	Mr. Jacques	VERNIER	Mission Transport des Matières Dangereuses - Chef de mission
F	France	Mr. Claude	PFAUVADEL	Mission Transport des Matières Dangereuses - President of the RID/ADR Joint Meeting
F	France	Mr. Alain	LEMAIRE	Mission Transport des Matières Dangereuses - Expert

**The safety adviser and the introduction of the examination
in the countries of RID/ADR (*continued*)**

State		First name	Name	Organization - Post
F	France	Mr. Pierre	BOURGEOIS	CIFMD - Expert
F	France	Mr. Hervé	PARENT	CIFMD - President
F	France	Mr. Dominique	RAIN	CIFMD - Vice President Delegate
F	France	Mrs. Mélina	AUGUSTIDES LEDUC	CIFMD - Chef de projet
FIN	Finland	Mr. Marko	RAJAMAKI	Vehicle Administration - Senior Officer
GB	United Kingdom	Mr. Anthony	SLATTER	Dangerous Goods Branch Department for Transport - DGSA Project Manager
GB	United Kingdom	Mr. Gary	QUINN	Scottish Qualifications Authority - Project Manager for Examination Body
IRL	Ireland	Mr. Roy	BONEHAM	New Alchemy Training and Consultancy Organisation - Chief Examiner for the DGSA examinations in the Republic of Ireland
IRL	Ireland	Mrs. Deidre	SINNOT	Health and safety authority - Head of Dangerous Goods Substance/ADR unit
IRL	Ireland	Mr. Jim	KEARNEY	The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Ireland - Education and Training Manager
LV	Latvia	Mrs. Marianna	HEISLERE	Ministry of Transport - Head of Ecological Division
LV	Latvia	Mr. Martins	GAILIS	Administration of the Road Transport, Ministry of Transport - Deputy chairman of the Board
LV	Latvia	Mr. Dainis	LACIS	State Railways Inspectorate, Ministry of Transport - Senior Officer
N	Norway	Mr. Runar	BJORNSEN	Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning - Engineer
NL	Netherlands	Mr. Winus	VAN ASSELT	SEV - product manager CCV
NL	Netherlands	Mr. Egbert	VAN LEEST	SEV - Secretary and exam development
P	Portugal	Mrs. Margarida	ROXO	General Division of land transport - Chief
P	Portugal	Mrs. Rosa Adelaide	VARELA	General Division of land transport - Expert
P	Portugal	Mrs. Joao	CEZILIA	ANTRAM - Training officer
PL	Poland	Mr. Seweryn	KACZMAREK	Main Road Transport Inspector - Expert
PL	Poland	Mr. Krzysztof	GRZEGORCZYK	Polish Ministry of Infrastructure - Adviser to the Minister

**The safety adviser and the introduction of the examination
in the countries of RID/ADR (*continued*)**

State		First name	Name	Organization - Post
PL	Poland	Mr. Ernest	RACZKOWSKI	Main Road Transport Inspector - Specialist
RO	Romania	Mr. Marian	CIOFALCA	Romanian Railway Authority AFER - Head of Department
RO	Romania	Mrs. Mariana	POPESCU	UNTRR - Vice President
RO	Romania	Mr. Dorina	SEBASTIAN	Romanian Railway Authority AFER - Head Office
RO	Romania	Mr. Sorin	NEGOESCU	Ministry of Transport - Senior adviser
RO	Romania	Mrs. Magdalena	PARNIA CORNELIA	Ministry of Transport - Expert
RO	Romania	Mrs. Maria Luiza	LUPASCU	Romanian Road Transport Authority - General Director
RO	Romania	Mr. Cristian	DRAGHE	Romanian Road Transport Authority - Adviser
RU	Russia	Mr. Vladimir	TSHIKHISELI	International Personnel Training Centre - Director
RU	Russia	Mr. Vadim	ANUFRIEV	International Dangerous Goods and Containers - Head, Foreign Affairs Department
S	Sweden	Mr. Mats	WILLEN	Swedish Rescue Services agency - Education and Examination question
SK	Slovakia	Mr. Mikulas	SEDLAK	Ministry of Transport - Ministerial adviser
SK	Slovakia	Mr. Miroslav	GOGA	Ministry of Transport - Ministerial adviser
	UNECE	Mrs. Sabrina	MANSION	Assistant Scientific Affairs Officer
	FIATA	Mr. Dominique	BERNADET	Adviser
	European Commission	Mr. Erkki	LAAKSO	Expert
