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**Economic Commission for Europe****Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the  
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

Geneva, 17-21 September 2012

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**Tanks****Use of vacuum-operated waste tanks****Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands<sup>1,2</sup>***Summary*

<b>Executive summary:</b>	Clarification of 4.5.1.1 of RID/ADR with respect to the use of vacuum-operation waste tanks for non-waste substances.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	Amendment of 4.5.1.1 of RID/ADR
<b>Related documents:</b>	Informal document INF.12 presented at the March 2000 session; TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/80 paragraphs 49-50 and TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/80/Add.5, amendments to Chapter 4.5; TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2002/11 (Germany), and informal documents INF.8 and INF.40 presented at the March 2002 session; TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/88 paragraphs 78-83; TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2003/31 (UIC); TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/92 paragraph 18 and TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/92/Add.1 item 10; Informal document INF.26 (Netherlands) presented at the September 2007 session; ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/108 paragraph 17 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/108/Add.1 paragraphs 39-41 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2012/13 (Netherlands);

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

<sup>2</sup> Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2012/25.

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/126, paragraph 13;  
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/126/Add.1, paragraphs 27-29.

## Introduction

1. Subsection 4.5.1.1 regulates the use of vacuum-operated waste tanks.
2. Below the text of subsection 4.5.1.1 (RID/ADR) is given:

"4.5.1.1 Wastes consisting of substances in Classes 3, 4.1, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 8 and 9 may be carried in vacuum-operated waste tanks conforming to Chapter 6.10 if their carriage in (ADR only: fixed tanks, demountable tanks,) tank-containers or tank swap bodies is permitted according to Chapter 4.3.

Substances assigned to tank code L4BH in Column (12) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 or to another tank code permitted under the hierarchy in 4.3.4.1.2 may be carried in vacuum-operated waste tanks with the letter "A" or "B" in part 3 of the tank code (ADR only:., as indicated in No. 9.5 of the vehicle approval certificate conforming to 9.1.3.5).".

3. In the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting in March 2012 some countries expressed the opinion that substances other than wastes may be carried in vacuum-operated waste tanks according to the existing text of RID/ADR. The Working Group on Tanks also hasn't safety objections against the carriage of pure/non-waste substances in vacuum-operated waste tanks according to Chapter 6.10 of RID/ADR.

4. Taking into account:

- that the interpretation of 4.5.1.1 with respect to allowance of non-waste substances is ambiguous in practice;
- that vacuum-operated waste tanks are used for non-waste substances in some practices (for example in the process industry); and
- that the use of vacuum-operated waste tanks for non-waste substances seems justified from the point of safety,

we propose to amend the existing text of 4.5.1.1.

## Proposal

5. In paragraph 4.5.1.1, second sentence , replace "Substances" by "Substances, including wastes,"