UNITED NATIONS



Economic and Social Council

Distr. GENERAL

TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2003/70 21 July 2003

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

<u>Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods</u> (Geneva, 13-17 October 2003)

PROVISIONS CONCERNING LOADING, UNLOADING AND HANDLING

Section 7.5.1

Transmitted by the Government of Belgium */

1. Introduction

During the session of the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) held in Geneva from 19 to 23 May 2003, the Belgian document INF. 9 concerning the correct interpretation of sub-section 7.5.1.1 has been discussed. At the end, it has been suggested that the Belgian delegate should introduce a document on this subject at the Joint Meeting session, because of the multimodal character of the problem raised (see TRANS/WP.15/174, paras. 22-26).

2. Background

According to section 7.5.1 of ADR, the vehicle and its driver shall comply with the regulatory provisions upon arrival at the loading and unloading sites; the loading or unloading shall not be carried out if an examination of the documents and a visual inspection of the vehicle and its equipment reveal certain infractions or deficiencies.

^{*/} Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT/III/2003/70.

TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2003/70 page 2

The question whether container terminals (for instance a road-rail terminal) are subject to section 7.5.1 or not has been raised several times in Belgium. Although it has been argued that in these terminals the containers and tank-containers are manipulated but not loaded and unloaded, Belgium is of the opinion that section 7.5.1 of ADR applies to these sites.

3. Discussion point

To eliminate this ambiguity, the Government of Belgium has the intention to introduce a proposal. It is therefore interested to know the opinion of the other Member States and Contracting Parties with regard to this subject.