

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Eightieth session,
Geneva, 8-12 May 2006)

Safety of the transport of dangerous goods in road tunnel

Transmitted by the Government of France

In January 2006, the Working Party adopted new amendments to ADR concerning the carriage of dangerous goods in road tunnels.

The entry into force of these amendments is scheduled for 1 January 2007, for implementation by Contracting Parties as from 1 July 2007 and no later than 31 December 2009 (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/186/Add.1, §1.6.1.12).

Some countries stated that a longer transitional period would be needed to implement these provisions.

It appears that Directive 2004/54/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on minimum safety requirements for tunnels in the Trans-European Road Network defines different transitional periods, until 2014 to renovate existing tunnels (or 2019 for Member States having several tunnels).

The way these tunnels will be renovated influences the tunnel category. If the current deadline is kept, the work to be done by the authorities will be duplicated because the category assignment will have to be revised in a very short way after the transitional period.

To avoid inconsistencies between ADR and the above-mentioned Directive, we propose to replace “31 December 2009” by “31 December 2014”.
