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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

Bern, 26-30 March 2007  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**INTERPRETATION OF RID/ADR/ADN \*/**

**Interpretation of paragraph 1.7.3: Quality Assurance**

**Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom**

**Introduction**

1. The Government of the United Kingdom would like to seek clarification with regards to the proper allocation of the duties set out in paragraph 1.7.3.
2. The text of paragraph 1.7.3 (set out below) originates from the IAEA publication TS-R-1 (section 310) and is copied without significant change into the UN Model Regulations (1.1.2.3.1) and, subsequently, the modal provisions of RID/ADR/ADN. Neither TS-R-1 nor the UN Model Regulations assign duties to any particular parties. However, RID/ADR/ADN name, define and assign obligations to the participants involved in the carriage of dangerous goods.

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\*/ Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2007/13.

### 1.7.3 Quality assurance

Quality assurance programmes based on international, national or other standards acceptable to the competent authority shall be established and implemented for the design, manufacture, testing, documentation, use, maintenance and inspection of all special form radioactive material, low dispersible radioactive material and packages and for carriage and in-transit storage operations to ensure compliance with the relevant provisions of ADR. Certification that the design specification has been fully implemented shall be available to the competent authority. The **manufacturer, consignor or user** shall be prepared to provide facilities for competent authority inspection during manufacture and use and to demonstrate to any cognizant competent authority that:

- (a) the manufacturing methods and materials used are in accordance with the approved design specifications; and
- (b) all packagings are periodically inspected and, as necessary, repaired and maintained in good condition so that they continue to comply with all relevant requirements and specifications, even after repeated use.

Where competent authority approval is required, such approval shall take into account and be contingent upon the adequacy of the quality assurance programme

3. The Government of the United Kingdom believes, based on the provisions of Chapter 1.4, that the 'user' would include the consignor and the packer (for packages) or filler (for tanks). The Government of the United Kingdom would, however, like to seek clarification from the Joint Meeting on this, and the other obligations, set out in paragraph 1.7.3.

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