

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Work of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting

19 October 2012

Accreditation of inspection bodies

Note by the secretariat

Introduction

1. At its autumn 2012 session, the Joint Meeting noted that the European Commission had decided to make Standard EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 mandatory in place of the 2004 version, with effect from 1 October 2012. This decision would necessitate an amendment to various paragraphs in ADR (see below) and the Working Party was invited to take appropriate measures as soon as possible (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/128, para. 24 and annex II).

2. Since then, the secretariat has been informed that the problem arose from a communication from the European Commission (2012/C 149/01) in the framework of the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008¹, Decision No 768/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008, Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 (*Publication of titles and references of harmonised standards under the directive*). According to this communication, the new standard EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 is of the same scope as EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004, but as from 1 October 2012 standard EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 ceases to give presumption of conformity with the essential requirements of the “directive”².

3. However, the secretariat notes that some EU Regulations, e.g. Commission Regulation (EU) No 371/2010³, contain references to EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 and do not seem to have been amended to refer to the new version of the standard.

4. Therefore it is not clear whether an amendment to RID/ADR/ADN is that urgently needed as suggested by the Joint Meeting. It seems that an amendment would be urgently

¹ Setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No. 339/93.

² It is not clear which “directive” is meant by this reference.

³ Commission Regulation (EU) No 371/2010 of 16 April 2010 replacing Annexes V, X, XV and XVI to Directive 2007/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for the approval of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles (Framework Directive)

needed only if compliance with EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 implied non-compliance with EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004. If this is not the case, inspection bodies operating in accordance with EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 would be deemed to comply with EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 as well, especially those which had already been accredited according to EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 previously.

5. On the other hand, if an amendment were introduced, all competent authorities in ADR countries, including non-EU countries would have to proceed with the re-accreditation of inspection bodies before 1 July 2013, and therefore it should be checked whether this would be administratively possible in all ADR countries, especially those which are not bound to apply the EU directives.

6. The Working Party may wish to discuss this issue and decide as deemed appropriate.

7. The secretariat notes that this issue would have to be considered also for ADN in the context of the recognition of classification societies (para. 1.15.3.8) and accreditation of vessel inspection bodies (para. 1.16.4.1).

Proposals (by the Joint Meeting)

<i>English</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Russian</i>
1.8.6.8 (twice), 6.2.2.10 (three times), 6.2.3.6.1 (3 times) and special provisions TA4 and TT9 in 6.8.4:	1.8.6.8 (deux fois), 6.2.2.10 (trois fois), 6.2.3.6.1 (trois fois) et dispositions spéciales TA4 et TT9 au 6.8.4:	1.8.6.8 (дважды), 6.2.2.10 (три раза), 6.2.3.6.1 (три раза) и 6.8.4, ТА4 и ТТ9:
Replace “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004” with “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012”.	Remplacer «EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004» par «EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012».	Замениť “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004” на “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012”.
