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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

(Twentieth session, Geneva, 7-16 December 1998, agenda item 5 (b))

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Programme of work for the 1999/2000 biennium and related proposals

Packing instructions for large packagings

Transmitted by the Expert from Germany

Introduction

During the fifteenth session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Geneva, 29 June - 9 July 1998, agreement on some basic packing instructions was reached. Nevertheless the question of inclusion of large packagings in the packing instructions for combination packagings or in separate packing instructions was postponed.

Large Packagings are envisaged to be used for articles, mostly of Class 1, as well as for inner packagings containing solids or liquids of various classes, especially Classes 3, 6.1, 8 and 9. Furthermore, large packagings are suitable for the transport of collected packaged wastes.

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As far as packing instructions for large packagings with inner packagings or articles of Classes 3 to 9 is concerned, considerable progress has been made during the meeting of the informal Working Group on Packing Instructions in Frankfurt from 7 to 11 September 1998.

Nevertheless an important area for the use of large packagings still has to be delt with, which is the use of large packagings for articles of Class 1. There might also be a need for inner packagings containing certain substances of Class 1.

Proposal:

The Committee is invited to continue work on packing instructions in the next biennium with the view to include large packagings in the existing packing methods for Class 1 as appropriate.