

3rd meeting of Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods

Virtual Session via Microsoft Teams

17th June 2021 10:00-12:30

Agreed Conclusions

1. The Technical Committee on Transport of Dangerous Goods (TCTDG) was welcomed by Mr. M. Zakonjšek who highlighted the importance of continuous and active cooperation in the development of activities on transport of dangerous goods. The Chair of the Committee, Mr. J. Jancevski, Acting Head of Unit for Transport of Dangerous Goods at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in the Republic of North Macedonia, highlighted in his speech the need of training for officials starting their work with the transport of dangerous goods legislations currently.
2. TCTDG welcomed the presentation of the UN legal framework given by representatives of the UNECE Secretariat, concerning the functioning of the UNECE decision making bodies: i.e. RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting, the ADN Safety and Administrative committees and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15). The presentation tackled issues such as: trade and border-crossing facilitation, mutual recognition of certificates and approvals, mutual administrative support of competent authorities, procedure for settlement of disputes, and implications for contracting parties etc.
3. The TCTDG welcomed the information shared by Mr Romain Hubert, Section Chief - Secretary of the Committee and SCETDG, that the Transport Community as an entity will be enabled to participate in its consultative capacity in the future meetings of WP.15 and WP.15/AC.2 and that the board of the ECOSOC SCETDG will also soon be consulted on that matter. The information on TC's future participation in WP.15 and in other ECOSOC subcommittees, once confirmed by SCETDG chair shall be further communicated via email.
4. The TCTDG welcomed the presentation by DG MOVE on main elements of Directive 2010/35/EU in the "Product" legislation context: its scope, exemptions, obligations of notified bodies, market surveillance authorities, notified bodies, economic operators and other relevant participants.
5. The TCTDG welcomed the presentation by DG GROW on Market Surveillance and Compliance of Products Regulation¹, adopted in June 2019, which will apply as of July 2021. Its core objectives are to improve compliance upfront, strengthen market surveillance cooperation, modernise the framework, and to enable more effective controls at the EU borders.
6. Serbian representatives shared information on Specificities of the Transportable Pressure Equipment in the context of the "Product" legislation and the Serbian experience in implementation of Directive 2010/35/EU. Serbian representatives pointed out to the recurrent problems concerning missing documents of transportable pressure equipment, e.g. tanks imported from the EU where type approval certificate or tank record doesn't exist. This causes long procedures for the customs and inspection bodies alike.
7. The TCTDG acknowledged interventions of Ms. G. Demakina, Chair of the Administrative Cooperation (ADCO of TDG) and Deputy HoD Technical Products Surveillance Division of the Consumer Rights Protection Centre Latvia and Dr. Torsten Tracht, ADCO Deputy-Chair, Central Authority of the Federal States for Safety (ZLS) Germany. It was highlighted that any non-compliance of transportable pressure equipment should be reported by the Regional participants to the manufacturer, the notified body who

¹ Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011, *OJ L 169, 25.6.2019, p. 1.*

supposedly issued incomplete documentation, and the relevant market surveillance authority from the origin Member State. Lack of respect of its obligations by any economic operator is to be taken into account by notified bodies in their audits and needs to be communicated to market surveillance authority. The ADCO Vice-Chair explained briefly the notification policy and cooperation with notified bodies within EU. Both speakers expressed availability for further cooperation to the extent possible and invited the authorities of the Regional Partners to consider more in-depth cooperation under specific TAIEX or Twinning projects.

8. TC Permanent Secretariat shared information on current state of play and planned applications for trainings of regional participants to address their ADR/RID/ADN needs, in particular within TAIEX or IPA projects. Regional Partners were invited by the TC PS to analyze more in depth their specific needs in order to be able to define further projects where that should be needed. TC PS also highlighted the fact that financing programmes should also be considered in order to ensure appropriate funding for the administration and industry alike.
9. The TCTDG reiterated importance of capacity building of the professionals in the area of transport of dangerous goods in the Western Balkans. TC Permanent Secretariat encouraged all regional participants to share its needs for trainings, workshops and other available tools under TAIEX/TWINNING assistance that the European Commission provides. TC PS expressed readiness to facilitate RP's applications for such programmes.
10. Serbia expressed the need for development of database for type approval certificates for the vehicles, and training for risk management. Albania expressed interest in trainings for safety advisors and emergency services.
11. EU Member States delegations were invited to offer support and mobilize experts in their Emergency services that would be willing to participate in a dedicated TAIEX or Twinning Programme. In order to facilitate the process, TCPS should be contacted by volunteers as soon as possible.
12. TC Permanent Secretariat presented a summary of the draft Guidelines for implementation of the transport of dangerous goods. The Guidelines contain a Roadmap that will set the deadlines for transposition of Directive 2008/68/EC and Directive 95/50/EC - 2023 and for transposition of Directive 2010/35/EU - 2025. The document shall be communicated with all regional participants in the course of next week. By the end of summer, written comments of RPs should be submitted and implemented, and the final version of Guidelines shall be prepared by TC PS by mid-September view to endorsement by the TC Regional Steering Committee in October.
13. Next TCTDG Meeting is proposed to be held in October 2021 and will be dedicated to RID, the exact date is still to be confirmed.