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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

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Item 8 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda

Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets

(TIR Convention, 1975) – Revision of the Convention:

Amendment proposals for the Convention

Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention, 1975

Fifty-fourth session

Geneva, 11 October 2012

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Revision of the Convention

Revision of the Convention

Note by the secretariat*

I. Background

1. At its 113th/114th session (June 2009) the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) of the World Customs Organization (WCO), adopted, as a result of the Fourth Harmonized System (HS) Review Cycle, various amendments to the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, including, inter alia, amendments to HS Code 24.03.10. Purpose of this particular amendment was to create a separate subheading in heading 24.03 for water pipe tobacco.

* The present document has been submitted after the official document deadline due to resource constraints.

2. The amendments entered into force for all Contracting Parties to the HS Convention on 1 January 2012.¹

II. Proposal by the secretariat

3. As a consequence of these amendments, it is deemed necessary to amend the reference in point (5) of Explanatory Note 0.8.3. accordingly, together with the reference in point (5) of Annex 1, page 11.

4. In line with the above, the secretariat proposes to amend the text of the Convention as follows:

Annex 1, page 11, point (5)

For HS code: 24.03.10 read HS code: 24.03.11 and 24.03.19

Annex 6, Explanatory Note 0.8.3, point (5)

For HS code: 24.03.10 read HS code: 24.03.11 and 24.03.19

III Considerations by the Working Party and the Administrative Committee

5. In accordance with the provisions of Article 60, amendments to, inter alia, Annexes 1 and 6 “shall come into force on a date to be determined by the Administrative Committee at the time of its adoption, unless by a prior date determined by the Administrative Committee at the same time, one-fifth or five of the States which are Contracting Parties, whichever number is less, notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of their objection to the amendment.”

6. In order to avoid a lengthy legal and administrative procedure for such minor amendment, Contracting Parties to the Convention may wish to postpone the above decisions until further amendment proposals have been adopted by the Administrative Committee, so that a complete package of amendments can be submitted to the Secretary-General for circulation and issuance of depositary notifications.

¹ See paragraph 109 of the report of the 113th/114th session of the CCC, available at the WCO website (members only) at:
www.wcoomd.org/members/meetingdocuments/council/council/meeting_0113/english/SC0098E1a.pdf