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**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods  
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification  
and Labelling of Chemicals**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

**Sixty-first session**

Geneva, 28 November-6 December 2022

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Listing, classification and packing**

Specific activity and activity concentration

Note by the secretariat[[1]](#footnote-2)

Introduction

1. At its June/July 2022 session, the TDG Sub-Committee considered document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/13 (Spain) proposing to add a note in the definition of “specific activity of a radionuclide” in 2.7.1.3 of the Model Regulations to clarify the term “activity concentration”, which is used throughout the text of the Model Regulations as a synonym.

2. The Sub-Committee noted that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had recently adopted amendments to the definition of “specific activity” in 240.1 of the IAEA Specific Safety Guide No. SSG-26. As an outcome of the discussion, the TDG Sub-Committee invited the secretariat to follow up with IAEA (see para. 38 of report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/120 as reproduced below):

*“38. The proposal received some general support. The Sub-Committee noted that the* *International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had recently considered the amendments proposed and had referred to the definition of “specific activity” in 240.1 of the IAEA Specific Safety Guide No. SSG-26. The Sub-Committee requested the secretariat to follow up with IAEA and agreed to resume consideration of this subject at its next session.”*

3. Following the consultation with the IAEA secretariat, the secretariat can confirm that the amendment proposed by Spain in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/13 seemed to be appropriate to address the concerns.

Proposal

4. It is proposed to amend in paragraph 2.7.1.3 of the Model Regulations the definition of specific activity, by adding a NOTE (new text underlined) as follows:

“*Specific activity of a radionuclide* means the activity per unit mass of that nuclide. The specific activity of a material shall mean the activity per unit mass of the material in which the radionuclides are essentially uniformly distributed.

***NOTE*:** *The terms “activity concentration” and “specific activity” are synonymous for the purpose of these Regulations.*”

1. A/75/6 (Sect.20), para. 20.51 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)