

RECUEIL DES INSTRUMENTS JURIDIQUES ET INSTITUTIONNELS
DE FACILITATION DU TRANSPORT ET DES ÉCHANGES
EN AFRIQUE SUBSAHARIENNE

ANNEXE V-8

1985 NORTHERN CORRIDOR TRANSIT AGREEMENT
PROTOCOL No 7 HANDLING OF DANGEROUS GOODS

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO PROTOCOL NO. 7

HANDLING OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Article 2

This Protocol contains provisions concerning the particular way in which dangerous goods should be handled. "Handling" includes transport, manipulation and storage.

Article 3

The problems raised by the handling of dangerous goods are not specific to the Northern Corridor: the risks involved and the precautions to be taken for the various classes of such goods are of universal character. For these reasons, the Protocol refers to the provisions included in existing relevant international instruments.

Article 4

By adopting uniform solutions developed by specialized international institutions regarding classification, listing, packing, labelling and precautions to be taken for handling of dangerous goods, international trade of such goods will be facilitated and the risks incurred in their transport, handling and storage will be lessened. When the same system of classification, listing, packing and labelling of dangerous goods is in general use, carriers, consignors and inspecting authorities will benefit by the simplification of transport, handling and control and by reductions in formalities and loss of time; their task will be much simpler and obstacles to international transport of such goods will be reduced accordingly.

The classification of goods is based on the type of risk involved. The UNDG Code includes the following definitions and explanations:

CLASS 1 - Explosives

(An explosive substance is a solid or liquid substance, or a mixture of substances, which is in itself capable by chemical reaction of producing gas at such a temperature and pressure and at such a speed as to cause damage to the surroundings. Included are pyrotechnic substances even when they do not evolve gases.)

Division 1.1

Substances and articles which have a mass explosion hazard. (A mass explosion is one which affects virtually the entire load practically instantaneously.)

Division 1.2

Substances and articles which have a projection hazard but not a mass explosion hazard.

Division 1.3

Substances and articles which have a fire hazard and either a minor blast hazard or a minor projection hazard or both, but not a mass explosion hazard.

This division comprises substances and articles:

- (a) which give rise to considerable radiant heat, or
- (b) which burn one after another, producing minor blast or projection effects or both.

Division 1.4

Substances and articles which present no significant hazard.

This division comprises substances and articles which present only a small hazard in the event of ignition or initiation during transport. The effects are largely confined to the package and no projection of fragments of appreciable size or range is to be expected. An external fire must not cause practically instantaneous explosion of virtually the entire contents of the package.

Division 1.5

Very insensitive substances which have a mass explosion hazard.

CLASS 2 - Gases: compressed, liquefied or dissolved under pressure

This class comprises:

- (a) Permanent gases: Gases which cannot be liquefied at ambient temperatures;
- (b) Liquefied gases: Gases which can become liquid under pressure at ambient temperature;

PROTOCOL NO. 7

HANDLING OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Article 1: Application

Pursuant to Article 31 of the Northern Corridor Transit Agreement, the Contracting Parties agree to apply the provisions of this Protocol related to Handling and transport of dangerous goods, which is an integral part of the Agreement.

the International Maritime Organization; and

- (e) The Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air, of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Article 2: Content of the Protocol •

This Protocol covers the handling and transport in transit within the territories of the Contracting Parties of such materials, substances and articles which in accordance with accepted international recommendations are classified as dangerous goods.

Article 4: Classification and definitions of classes of dangerous goods •

The Contracting Parties recognize the classification of goods by the type of risk involved, set forth in the manual "Transport of Dangerous Goods" of the United Nations, as the basis for determining hazards in the transport of dangerous goods.

Article 3: Recognition of international recommendations •

The Contracting Parties, recognizing the need for uniform procedures in the handling of dangerous goods, take note of:

- (a) The Recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods of the United Nations;
- (b) The Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Materials of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
- (c) The provisions on the carriage of dangerous goods in the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea;
- (d) The International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code of

Article 5: Labelling and placarding of dangerous goods

The Contracting Parties undertake to acquaint the parties concerned in their countries with the internationally recommended danger labels or placards identifying risks which are affixed to dangerous goods arriving from abroad, and to issue appropriate instructions for handling and transport of goods so labelled according to the risk involved.

Article 6: Documentation for dangerous goods

The documents to be used in connexion with the handling and transport of dangerous goods are provided for under Section 8, Documentation and procedures, of the Northern Corridor Transit Agreement.

- (c) Dissolved gases: Gases dissolved under pressure in a solvent, which may be absorbed in a porous material;
- (d) Deeply refrigerated permanent gases - e.g. liquid air, oxygen, etc.

For stowage and segregation purposes Class 2 is subdivided further, namely:

- Class 2.1. Inflammable gases;
- Class 2.2. Non-inflammable gases;
- Class 2.3. Poisonous gases.

CLASS 3 - Inflammable liquids

These are liquids, or mixtures of liquids, or liquids containing solids in solution or suspension (e.g. paints, varnishes, lacquers, etc.).

Class 3 is subdivided further, namely:

- Class 3.1. Low flashpoint group of liquids;
- Class 3.2. Intermediate flashpoint group of liquids;
- Class 3.3. High flashpoint group of liquids.

CLASS 4 - Inflammable solids or substances

Class 4 deals with substances other than those classed as explosives, which under conditions of transportation, are readily combustible, or may cause or contribute to fires.

Class 4 is subdivided further, namely:

Class 4.1. Inflammable solids.
The substances in this Class are solids possessing the properties of being easily ignited by external sources, such as sparks and flames, and of being readily combustible, or of being liable to cause or contribute to fire through friction.

Class 4.2. Substances liable to spontaneous combustion.
The substances in this Class are either solids or liquids possessing the common property of being liable spontaneously to heat and to ignite.

Class 4.3. Substances emitting inflammable gases when wet.
The substances in this Class are either solids or liquids possessing the common property, when in contact with water, of evolving inflammable gases. In some cases these gases are liable to spontaneous ignition.

CLASS 5 - Oxidizing substances (agents) and organic peroxides

Class 5 is subdivided further, namely:

Class 5.1 Oxidizing substances (agents).
These are substances which, although in themselves not necessarily combustible, may, either by yielding oxygen or by similar processes, increase the risk and intensity of fire in other materials with which they come into contact.

Class 5.2 Organic peroxides.
These are thermally instable substances which may undergo exothermic self-accelerating decomposition. In addition, they may have one or more of the following properties: be liable to explosive decomposition, burn rapidly, be sensitive to impact or friction, react dangerously with other substances, cause damage to the eyes.

CLASS 6 - Poisonous (toxic) and infectious substances

Class 6 is subdivided further, namely:

Class 6.1 Poisonous (toxic) substances.
These are substances liable to either to cause death or serious injury or to harm human health if swallowed or inhaled, or by skin contact.

Class 6.2 Infectious substances.
These are substances containing disease-producing micro-organisms.

CLASS 7 - Radioactive substances

Class 7 comprises substances which spontaneously emit a significant radiation of which the specific activity is greater than 0.002 microcurie per gramme.

CLASS 8 - Corrosives

Class 8 comprises substances which are solids or liquids possessing, in their original state, the common property of being able more or less severely to damage living tissue. The escape of such a substance from its packaging may also cause damage to other cargo or to the means of transport.

CLASS 9 - Miscellaneous dangerous substances

These are substances which present a danger not covered by other classes.