DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

TWENTIETH MEETING

Montréal, 24 October to 04 November 2005

Agenda Item 5: Resolution, where possible, of the non-recurrent work items identified by the Commission or the panel

5.2: Reformatting of the packing instructions

REFORMATTING OF THE PACKING INSTRUCTIONS

(Presented by J. Abouchaar)

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At DGP WG/04 a paper (DGP-WG/04-WP/39) was adopted that revised the terms of reference for the reformatting of the packing instructions. Following DGP WG/04 representatives from Belgium, the United Kingdom, the United States and IATA formed a small working group to undertake the reformatting exercise based on the objectives set out in these revised terms of reference.
- 1.2 The group had an initial 3-day meeting in Brussels in March of this year followed by a 2-day meeting in Washington D.C. in late May, which was attended by the representatives from the United States and IATA only and a final review session during the July meeting of the UN Subcommittee.
- 1.3 The group looked at the current packing instructions to identify and remove any existing anomalies, to standardise the requirements by incorporating, where possible, the PPR into the body of the packing instruction and to separate out, where appropriate, passenger and Cargo Aircraft Only into separate packing instructions. The result of this work is a set of revised packing instructions for classes 3, 4, 5, Division 6.1 and Class 8.
- 1.4 To assist the Panel in analysing the changes proposed by the reformatting exercise there are a number of appendices to this paper:
 - Appendix 1: the revised packing instructions;
 - Appendix 2: an alphabetical list of substances showing the current and proposed packing

instruction numbers; and

Appendix 3:

a table that sets out for each class the packing instruction and the application of that packing instruction to packing group, applicable subsidiary risk, aircraft type (passenger or cargo aircraft), inner packagings permitted, quantity per inner packaging and an indication of specific restrictions that may apply, e.g. plastic inner packagings not permitted.

1.5 As the changes proposed are quite extensive it is unrealistic to expect the Panel members to be able to been able to conduct sufficient analysis of the revised packing instructions by the commencement of DGP/20 to be able to agree to the proposed changes. In addition, it is industry that will be impacted the most by the revisions and it is therefore appropriate that industry should be given time to analyse the revised packing instructions and to provide comments.

2. PROPOSAL 1

- 2.1 The new packing instructions be made available to regulators and industry for review and comment over the period 2005-2006. The Panel is invited to determine the best method of providing the packing instructions:
 - a) inclusion in their entirety into the 2007-2008 Technical Instructions as a new "Attachment 5" or as determined by the Secretary;
 - b) by reference in the 2007-2008 Technical Instructions to the ICAO website where an electronic copy would be available for download; or
 - c) another method that the Panel deems appropriate.

3. **PROPOSAL 2**

- 3.1 As there is significant change to many of the packing instructions, those that apply in the 2007-2008 edition may no longer apply in the 2009-2010 edition. To ensure that airline acceptance staff are able to verify the correct application of the revised packing instructions new numbers should be applied to the revised packing instructions. The Panel is asked to consider what renumbering should take place when the new packing instructions are implemented in the 2009-2010 edition of the Technical Instructions. There are a number of options:
 - a) renumber all of the packing instructions to a new number series. For example Class 3 start from PI 350, Class 4 from PI 450, etc.;
 - b) retain the existing packing instruction number for those packing instructions that have had little or no change, e.g. PI 301, 311, 312, 400, 523, 602, etc. and only renumber those that have been significantly amended. The numbering for the "new" packing instructions could be as per a) above;
 - c) where applicable align the packing instruction numbering with that of the UN Model Regulations, e.g. existing PI 311, which applies to UN 3064 Nitroglycerin solution in alcohol would become PI 300, PI 312, which applies to UN 3269 Polyester resin kit would become PI 302, etc. Those for which there is no UN equivalent would still have to be renumbered however.