DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)
MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE

The Hague, 3 to 7 November 2008

Agenda Item 2: Development of recommendations for amendments to the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284) for incorporation in the 2011/2012 Edition

2.7: Part 7 — Operator’s Responsibilities

SEPARATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL FROM LIVE ANIMALS

(Presented by Gary Branscombe)

SUMMARY

This paper questions the reasoning for a segregation distance between radioactive materials and animals less restrictive than for humans.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Part 7;2.9.6.3 the Technical Instruction provides guidance on the segregation between animals and humans as follows:

2.9.6.3 Separation from live animals

Categories II — Yellow and III — Yellow packages, overpacks or freight containers must be separated from live animals by a distance of at least 0.5 metres for journeys not exceeding 24 hours, and by a distance of at least 1.0 metres for journeys longer than 24 hours.

1.2 Assuming a group of packages with a sum of 10.0 TI onboard a passenger aircraft, for a flight of 10 hours, the minimum distance would be 1.65 metres for humans, and 0.5 metres, about a third of the separation distance, for animals. Note that a passenger aircraft not under exclusive use can carry up to 50 TI and when loaded, the animals may be in the same compartment as the radioactive materials, thus not benefiting from the shielding of a partition or a floor.
1.3 After reviewing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) document “IAEA SAFETY STANDARDS SERIES - Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material, 1996 Edition (Revised) TS-R-1 (ST-1, Revised)”, we could find no similar loading guidance.

2. **ACTION BY THE DGP-WG**

2.1 The DGP-WG is invited to discuss if the text of 7.2.9.6.3 should be retained or should the loading restrictions from Table 7-2 “minimum distance from surface of packages, overpacks and freight containers of radioactive material to the nearest inside surface of passenger cabin or flight deck partitions or floors, irrespective of carriage duration” be also applicable to animals. Subsequent to the discussion, a working paper proposing changes to the Technical Instructions may be presented at a later meeting.

— END —