International Civil Aviation Organization

DGP/25-WP/45
4/9/15

WORKING PAPER

DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING

Montréal, 19 to 30 October 2015

Agenda Item 3: Development of recommendations for amendments to the *Supplement to the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc 9284SU) for incorporation in the 2017-2018 Edition

INFECTED LIVE ANIMALS

(Presented by the Secretary)

SUMMARY

The history of requirements for transporting infected live animals and a consequential inconsistency between the Technical Instructions and the Supplement is discussed.

Action by the DGP: The DGP is invited to clarify the requirements in the Supplement for transporting infected live animals using a risk based approach.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At DGP/WG15, inconsistencies with respect to the provisions for the transport of infected live animals between the Technical Instructions and the Supplement were discussed (DGP WG/15-WP/38, paragraph 3.1.1 refers); the former permitted their transport under the terms and conditions of an approval granted by the appropriate national authority whereas the Supplement indicated an exemption was required. It was agreed guidance from the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organization for Animal health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) should form the basis for developing a revised proposal and that this should be consistent with Annex 18.

1.2 In 1983, the first edition of Annex 18 contained Standard 4.2 stating infected live animals were "forbidden on aircraft unless exempted by the States concerned." This was amended in 1989 (Amendment 4) as a result of a general review by the DGP at the Eleventh Meeting to simplify the Annex. An extract from the report (DGP/11-WP/47) presented below provides the rational for the change.

> "2.2.4 Similar problems were identified with Chapter 4 owing to the details included relative to dangerous goods not permitted to be transported. It was considered preferable that the chapter should now make general statements about limitations on the transport of dangerous goods and the detail would be in the Technical Instructions."

1.3 Specifically, the Standard in 4.2 was modified so that infected live animals were "forbidden on aircraft unless exempted by the States concerned or unless the provisions of the Technical Instructions indicate they may be transported under an approval issued by the State of Origin." However, the corresponding provision in the Technical Instructions was not changed until the 2005-2006 Edition. This edition incorporated changes from the 13th Revised Edition of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and included major changes to the provisions for infectious substances including the move from the concept of using risk groups for transport classification purposes to that of different categories as well as the development of new packing instructions. In order to align with the UN, a new provision 2:6.3.2.6 was developed:

> "A live animal that has been intentionally infected and is known or suspected to contain an infectious substance must not be transported by air unless the infectious substance contained cannot be consigned by any other means. Infected animals may only be transported under terms and conditions approved by the appropriate national authority."

1.4 The corresponding chapter in the Supplement, S-1;2, "Limitation of dangerous goods on aircraft — infected live animals" and dating from 1982 and which refers to exemptions, was not amended accordingly and thus the inconsistency has been created.

1.5 Based on the above explanation for the inconsistency, and noting that the WHO adopted a risk based approach when revising the classification criteria for infectious substances and that the OIE provides guidance on the transport of live animals, it is suggested the Supplement should be revised to take this into account and to clarify the requirements. Depending upon the outcome of the discussion, a consequential amendment may be required for 2;6.3.6.1 of the Technical Instructions.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP

2.1 The DGP is invited to amend Part 1, Chapter 2 of the Supplement as shown in the appendix to this working paper.

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APPENDIX

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PART S-1 OF THE SUPPLEMENT

Part S-1

GENERAL

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Chapter 2

LIMITATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS ON AIRCRAFT — INFECTED LIVE ANIMALS

2.1 The use of live animals must only be considered for the transport of an infectious substance when the substance cannot be shipped by any other means. Infected animals may only be transported ~~when an exemption is granted by the States concerned~~ under the terms and conditions of an approval granted by the appropriate authorities of the States of Origin, [Transit], [Destination] and Operator.

2.2 Such infected animals must be shipped in germ-tight packaging at least as secure as that used in the transport of germ-free animals. These consignments must be declared and labelled as “Live Animal” and as “Infectious Substance”.

2.~~2~~3 When an empty receptacle is to be returned to the shipper it must be properly disinfected/sterilized before shipment. Moreover, all labels (“Live Animal” and “Infectious Substance” labels) must be removed, obliterated or otherwise made no longer visible. (See also Part S-6;6)

Note1.— A risk based approach, dependent on whether the infectious substance is classified as Category A or Category B and on whether it is assigned to UN2814 or UN2900, must be used when considering a request for such an approval. If the infectious substance is assigned to UN2814, both public health and veterinarian authorities must grant approval.

Note2.— Guidance on the international standards for export / import of live animals is given in the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/terrestrial-code/access-online/) and the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code (http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/aquatic-code/access-online/).

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