DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE

Abu Dhabi, 4 to 8 October 2004

Agenda Item 5: Discussion of miscellaneous dangerous goods issues

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TELEPHONE NUMBER

(Presented by J. Abouchaar)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 A number of States have lodged variations to the Technical Instructions requiring that the shipper provide a telephone number on the dangerous goods transport document for use in the event of an emergency.

1.2 However, the text of some of the variations require that the shipper must provide the "international access code" in addition to the country code, area code and telephone number.

1.3 The difficulty with requiring the international access code is that this code varies depending on the region or country from which the call is placed. For example to comply with the requirements of AE 01, the shipper must show the telephone number prefixed with the international access code "00", but for US 12 the telephone number must be prefixed with "011".

1.4 As the person making the call should know what the international access code is for the country from which they are calling, the requirement for the shipper to add the international access code as part of the telephone number is redundant.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 The Panel is asked to support the Secretary in requesting that any State variation requesting the an emergency telephone number should simply contain the following wording:

".. a telephone number, including area code and country code, where applicable."

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