DGP-WG/05-Flimsy No. 6
20/4/05

DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE

Montreal, 18 to 22 April 2005

REPORT OF AN AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES

(Presented by G.A. Leach)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During DGP-WG/05 an ad-hoc working group convened to solve several issues regarding the new requirements on infectious substances.

The agenda consisted of the following items:

- Meaning of leak-proof;
- Meaning of 'minimum likelihood';
- Consistency between the used wording with respect to patient specimens in different paragraphs;
- Location of a new paragraph as proposed in working paper DGP-WG/05-WP/51.

With respect to the issue about 'leak-proof' it was decided that at this moment no change or clarification is required as this problem is not only related to the transport of infectious substances but also to other transport requirements (e.g. use of a leak-proof liner, reference in PI 916, etc.).

For the other 3 items on the agenda, the following proposals have been concluded.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 2.1. It was felt that a reference to the 'minimum likelihood' in the note following 2;6.3.2.3.6 would clarify the meaning.

The note would re ad as follows: "In determining whether a patient specimen has a minimum likelihood that pathogens are present, an element of professional judgment …"

2.2 In order to be consistent between the paragraphs on patient specimens following changes are proposed.

- Delete the words 'human or animal' in 2;6.3.1.3 which will read as follows: "Cultures are the result of a process by which pathogens are intentionally propagated. This definition does not include ~~human or animal~~ patient specimens as defined …"
- Change 2;6.3.1.4 as follows:
  "Patient specimens are ~~human or animal materials~~, those collected …
- Change 2; 6.3.2.3.6 as follows:
  "~~Human or animal~~ Patient specimens for which …"

2.3 2.3 It was decided that the new paragraph as agreed in DGP-WG/05-WP/51 must be located as new 2;6.3.7, although it was recognized that a complete renumbering of the chapter on infectious substances in Part 2 of the ICAO TI might be needed.

— END —