



ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 37: Other issues to be considered by the Technical Commission

RECTIFICATION OF THE CURRENT ARABIC INTERPRETATION TO THE TERM
“DANGEROUS GOODS”

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper proposes to rectify the Arabic interpretation to the term “Dangerous Goods” amongst all ICAO dangerous goods-related documentation, as the current Arabic interpretation is obviously misleading, as the dangerous goods provisions has a wider scope which is not limited to only cargo but includes also provisions for passengers, crew, mail, etc..

Action: The Assembly is invited to

- a) advise views on the possibility for rectification of the Arabic interpretation to the term “Dangerous Goods” and to refrain from using the term “Dangerous Cargo”; and
- b) rectify the Arabic interpretation relevant to the term “Dangerous Goods” in all ICAO Documents.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <i>Strategic Objectives:</i> | This working paper relates to the Safety Strategic Objective. |
| <i>Financial implications:</i> | N/A |
| <i>References:</i> | Annex 18 — <i>The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air</i> Doc 9284, <i>Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air</i> |

¹ Arabic version provided by the United Arab Emirates.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The current meaning of the Arabic interpretation of the definition “Dangerous Goods” is cargo or materials/items which may pose risk to health or safety or property or the environment as defined in the list of dangerous cargo in the technical instructions.

1.2 The term “Dangerous Goods” in Arabic in all ICAO dangerous goods related documents, subsequently the aviation industry at Member States Which Arabic is their mother tongue, needs to be looked at for rectification, if agreed by the Assembly. It is in fact confusing and misleading since it is read by some native Arabic Speakers States as “Dangerous Cargo”, where the ICAO provisions in both Annex 18 — *The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* and the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air*, (Doc 9284), has a wider scope which is not limited to only Cargo but includes also provisions for passengers, crew, and mail...etc. We can understand that the current interpretation has derived from the current precise translation in the dictionary.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The interpretation of the current term in Arabic should be changed to address the scope of the term “Dangerous Goods” and the associated provisions, and to refrain from using the term “Dangerous Cargo”. Subsequently, the Arabic interpretation relevant to the term “Dangerous Goods” in all ICAO Documents should be changed accordingly.

— END —