

**Informal meeting on Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units
at the request of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Working Party on
Intermodal Transport and Logistics**

Geneva and virtual, 27-28 May 2021

Annotated provisional agenda for the first informal meeting

starting at 11.00 a.m. on Thursday, 27 May 2021

I. Provisional agenda

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II. Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

1. Introduction

A Group of Experts on IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code) has been suggested in accordance with relevant processes in place at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). These processes have been initiated with the decision of the ECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) to establish this Group of Experts and the adoption of the Group's terms of reference as provided in annex to ECE/TRANS/WP.24/143 (please see: <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2019/wp24/ECE-TRANS-WP.24-143e.pdf>). As part of these processes, IMO Maritime Safety Committee considered and endorsed the Group's terms of reference in June 2019 and authorized the IMO secretariat to participate in the work of the Group. At the same time, the ILO Sectoral Advisory Bodies did not consider the establishment of the Group positively at its fourth seating on 13-15 January 2021.

In view of the absence of positive consideration towards the establishment of the Group of Experts, and further to the decision of WP.24 at its 63rd session (Geneva, 28-30 October 2020) as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.24/147, para 80, the work with the aims: (i) to assess which areas need to be prioritized in the updates, and (ii) to consider text usage of CTU Code in the mobile application, should be organized in the informal pre-work.

This meeting is held with the view to organise the requested informal pre-work on the two defined tasks.

2. Chair for the meeting

Participants may wish to appoint a chair for the meeting to facilitate the discussions.

3. Agenda of the meeting

Participants are invited to follow the agenda as contained in the current document for the first informal meeting.

Documentation

CTU-Code/2021/first-informal-meeting/1

4. Updates to the CTU Code

The Russian Federation as well as other participants tabled at the 61st session of WP.24 documents which suggested the CTU Code required updating in view of new developments. Among other things, it was suggested to review the CTU Code with regard to elements/issues such as:

- Selection of methods for cargo fastening and load distribution calculation,
- Packing of dangerous goods in bulk into general purpose bulk containers,
- Friction factors in the context of new developments in securing cargo,
- Responsibilities of packers and drivers,
- Quick Lashing Guide (versus new European standard on transport stability of packages)

Furthermore, the Russian Federation presented ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2020/8 at the 63rd session of WP.24 which proposes specific updates to the CTU Code. In particular, it proposes to add in Chapter 5 categories for acceleration coefficients for rail transport, elaborate further in Chapter 6 the permitted loads on container walls or revising sections 2.3.4-2.3.6, 2.3.8, 2.4.2, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 4.4.3 to 4.4.6. It also provides specific additions to sections 3.1.4, 3.3.6 and 4.1.3.

Participants will be invited to consider the proposal from the Russian Federation.

Participants will be also invited to discuss any other recent developments related to packing cargo in cargo transport units and contemplate if these changes mean that updates to the CTU Code are necessary and, if so, to which sections. In doing so, participants are also invited to submit specific proposals and considerations on relevant developments in writing three weeks prior to the meeting.

Agreed views of participants will be submitted to 64th session of WP.24 in October 2021.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/WP.24/2020/8

5. CTU Code mobile application

WP.24 at its 61st session considered a proposal for a development of a mobile application for the CTU Code. Such mobile application should serve two functions: (i) provide quick and user-friendly access to the provisions described and explained in the Code, and (ii) collect information from the industry how cargo is packed and transported and offer a library of visual examples of the dos and don'ts.

Participants will be invited to consider usage of the CTU Code through a mobile application so that it would provide the two abovementioned functions. They may consider among other things:

- which should be the mechanism for linking any query of the user with providing the right answer from the CTU Code in a quick and user-friendly way,
- which is a user-friendly way for user to input a query, and/or
- whether and, if so, how the CTU Code's provisions should be customized for use in a mobile application.

For the development of the mobile application, participants may also wish to take into account the work done by Container Owners Association, Global Shippers Forum, ICHCA International, TT Club and World Shipping Council on the CTU Code – quick guide with the container packing checklist (Informal document WP.24 No.9 (2020)).

In case of proposed updates to the CTU Code (see agenda item 4), participants will be also invited to consider ways for their seamless integration into the mobile application.

Considerations of participants will be submitted to 64th session of WP.24.

Documentation

Informal document WP.24 No.9 (2020)

6. Other Business

Participants will have the opportunity to inform of any other business related to the informal pre-work on the CTU Code.

7. Date and Place of Next Meeting

Participants will be invited to agree on the date and place of the next informal meeting.

Work schedule:

Thu, 27 May: 11 am to 3 pm CET

Fri, 28 May: 11 am to 3 pm CET