Inter-Agency Group Virtual Meeting

July 30th 2014
Meeting Start Time: 15:30

Meeting Minutes

1. Introductions

Everyone on the call was known to each other and the following were on the call:

Stephen Whittingham, IAEA
Chris Bajwa, IAEA
Loukas Kontogiannis, IMO
Katherine Rooney, ICAO
Paul Hinrichsen, TRANSSC Chair

2. Review of Agenda

Mr. Bajwa provided a brief overview of the Agenda for the meeting.

3. Summaries of previous meetings/introduction of upcoming meetings
   a. TRANSSC 28/29

   Mr Whittingham explained that one of the purposes of this meeting was for the IAG to complete a TRANSSC action concerning its review of the SSR-6 proposed changes submitted during the 2013 review cycle (agenda item 6). The outputs from agenda item 6 will be presented to TRANSSC29 in November 2014. He went on to provide a brief overview of the TRANSSC 28 meeting. The final (DRAFT) report was predicted to be posted within the month. He reported on the various working groups that have been assigned tasks in preparation for the upcoming review cycle. The accelerated schedule for the next review/revision cycle was adopted by the committee. A TM on accidents will be held later this year, and will compile accident data in order to objectively review the current accident requirements in the regulations. The concept of a “training academy” for regulators was also introduced to TRANSSC, and received the support of the committee.

   b. UNECE SCETDG 45th/46th meeting; RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting March 2014

   No report was given by UNECE as Mr Kervella was not able to attend the meeting. IMO, ICAO, and IAEA attended the 45th SCETDG meeting. Nothing was mentioned as needing discussion at this point.

   c. IMO DSC (CCC) 19th meeting

   Mr. Kontogiannis briefly discussed information related to IMO. The IMDG code for 2016 was approved by MSC 93. Amendments for Class 7 to align with UN regulations. He mentioned the FAL meeting where the denials database would be reported on.

   d. ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel 25th/26th Meeting

Ms Rooney provided a brief overview of the last panel meeting. A special meeting on lithium batteries would also be held in the near future. The 1st working group of the ICAO TI cycle in would be held in Rio (Brazil) in October. “Dangerous Goods” is now “Cargo Safety” and a “Dangerous Goods” working group would be placed within the Cargo Safety Panel.

4. Development of Terms of Reference for IAG
a. Refer to previous draft:

It was agreed that the members of the Inter-Agency group would review the proposed TOR and it would be discussed further at the next (face-to-face) meeting. The point was made (by ICAO) that backing of the IAEA DDG would be helpful in justifying participation in and attendance of inter-agency group meetings. Significant discussion ensued on how to elevate the status of the IAG.

5. Discussion of Action Taken on UF6 at 45th meeting of the SCETDG

A brief discussion of what transpired at the 45th UNECE SCETDG ensued. Ms Rooney provided insight as to how an amendment to the TIs to provide a “special provision” for air shipments of UF6 for safeguards purposes. The spring (March) meeting of 2015 would be where this would be introduced, in preparation for the October 2015 meeting for revision of the TIs. A-106 is the special provision for movement of chemicals related to the chemical weapons ban.

6. Regulations
   a. Input to SSR-6 2015 review cycle
   b. Reference:

The IAG reviewed and briefly discussed the different proposals that were brought forward during the previous SSR-6 review cycle, and “assigned” to the IAG for “review”. Proposals discussed included:

#22 (Belgium). Mr Whittingham agreed to circulate a short narrative on this proposal and report to TRANSSC 29.

#24 (France), this proposal needs to clarify who is responsible for the provisions highlighted. This is throughout the proposal.

#38 (France,) this was agreed to be superseded by events at the UNECE related to UF6.

#48 (WNTI), it was generally agreed that the changes proposed may lead to confusion. The different modes could use the terms such as “shipper” “consignor” or “carrier” differently. IMO-UNECE-ILO have an “agreed” terms list, IMO to post this for reference.

#49 (WNTI), this proposal would need to go before ICAO.

#16 (Germany), IMO commented that the “reverse flow” is uncomfortable for IMO, (i.e., changes to IAEA SSR-6 that could flow back into the modal rules) and they would not generally provide input on Member State proposals. If a proposal does not affect IMDG, then IMO would not comment. If it eventually would be adopted in the UN Model regulations, it would need to be cleared by IMO. IMO to discuss with Germany and clarify whether this would need to be fed back through the IMO IMDG amendment process. Clarification on the timeline for these proposals was also discussed. A report would be made to TRANSSC 29 from IAG on these proposals. It is the intent to have all proposals re-submitted (accounting for the feedback received). No proposals would be carried forward from the last review.
cycle into the new cycle. No changes to SSR-6 should conflict with what is any of the modal regulations or UN Model regulations.

7. Meetings/Events Schedule for 2014/2015
   a. Update Calendar!
      The IAG members were encouraged to keep the IAG calendar updated, in order to be sure scheduling “harmonization” as much as possible.
   b. Link: 
      http://gnssn.iaea.org/sites/auth/NSRW/RITS/transport/Lists/Calendar/calendar.aspx

8. Other Business
   No specific “other business” was mentioned. The point was made that the participation of the modal bodies in the transport workshops that are sponsored by IAEA is welcomed and encouraged, as the modal provisions often have more direct impact on the transport operations of the Member States that the transport regs have, therefore the input of the modal bodies is very important.

The following items were not covered in depth due to time:

9. Inter-regional activities
   a. Update on Inter-Regional TC transport project

10. Regional activities
   a. Asia-Pacific
      i. TC Activities
         1. Beijing Workshop (complete)
         2. New Zealand Workshop (for Pacific Islands) complete
         3. Pacific Islands Transport Workshop (Palau) Dec 8-12, 2014
   b. Latin America and the Caribbean
      i. Caribbean training (US funded) complete [Panama City, June 2-6, 2014]. IMO participating.
   c. Africa
   d. Mediterranean (EU funded)
      i. Transport Workshop, Athens, Greece, October 13-17, 2014