Inter-Agency Group Meeting

VIRTUAL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

September 4th, 2015
Meeting Start Time: 1500 (0900 EST)

1. **Introductions**
   Meeting participants: Paul Hinrichsen (TRANSSC Chair); Dr Katherine Rooney (ICAO); Loukas Kontogiannis (IMO); Alfredo Parroquin-Ohlson (IMO); Olivier Kervella (UNECE); Stephen Whittingham (IAEA); Chris Bajwa (IAEA)

2. **Review of Agenda**
   Agenda was briefly reviewed

3. **Summaries of previous meetings/introduction of upcoming meetings**
   a. **UNECE SCETDG 47th/48th meetings**
      Mr. Kervella provided a brief overview of the 47th meeting that occurred in June, which was the first meeting of the biennium. They are working more on explosives than radioactive material. The 48th meeting will occur in November, and papers for this meeting are due by the end of the day. The Joint Meeting (15-25 Sept, 2015) again, did not concern much with radioactive material. One paper from the UK asks for clarification of wording of paragraph 6.4.22.8 in ADR for package designs that require unilateral approval (text not in SSR-6).  
   b. **TRANSSC 30/Extra-Ordinary Meeting (21-25 Sept)/31**
      Mr. Whittingham provided a brief summary of the TRANSSC 30 meeting highlighting the review of the proposals (some 158 of them) for changes to the regulations. Some proposals required additional information/discussion. The “Extra-Ordinary” meeting will provide the needed discussion of a number of these proposals. Four working groups over the course of 4 days. A meeting will be held in Germany to develop some of these proposals. For TRANSSC 31 all findings of the previous working groups will be made available and will inform the decision to revise the regulations. Mr Rick Boyle (USA) has agreed to chair the plenary review of all the proposals for TRANSSC 31. The meeting is scheduled for 5 days, but may be less than that. The working group on containers was mentioned. Attendees to the “Extra-Ordinary” meeting may choose which working groups they wish to be in. A decision on revision will be made and it will take approximately 12 months to issue the revision. A discussion of extending the frequency of review for the regulations from every 2 years to something longer ensued. It was agreed that this should eventually be discussed in TRANSSC.
   c. **IMO CCC 2 (Sept 2015)/Editorial and Technical (ETG) (Spring and Fall 2015) and MSC**
      Mr. Kontogiannis indicated that for the Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC) nothing had come through for Class 7. This year is a revision cycle for the IMDG code, the ETG met in the Spring, and CCC 2 will review the outcomes of that meeting. The ETG will then meet to finalize the draft amendments to the IMDG
code, which will be adopted by the MSC in 2016, with the entrance into force of the revised IMDG code in 2017.

d. **ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel 25th Meeting**
   
   Dr Rooney provided a quick summary of upcoming meetings, stating that the 25th meeting of the DGP in October had no submissions on Class 7.

4. **Development of Terms of Reference for IAG**
   
   It was generally felt agreed that “Formalizing” the IAG would likely mean more “work” in terms of administration, and will not necessarily command additional budget. A discussion ensued, and the point was made by Dr Rooney that ICAO and WHO were potentially considering further collaboration on issues including on transport. It was mentioned that the IAG was originally formed in response to the Fukushima events, and in that sense the group is already “in touch” and can respond in the event of any transport related emergencies. The WHO should be made aware of this and that we the group is available to discuss issues specific to transport as needed.

   IAEA announced the new director of NSRW, Mr Paul Johnston.

5. **Regulations**
   
   The previous conversation on the review cycle for SSR-6 was referenced, and no further discussion was held.

6. **Meetings/Events Schedule for 2015/2016**
   
   a. **Update Calendars!**
      
      It was emphasized that the IAG SharePoint calendar should be updated as soon as possible for 2016 events.

7. **Other Business**
   
   As raised by Mr Hinrichsen, the conclusion to the discussion on the Terms of Reference, it was generally agreed that the IAG functions well as an informal group and there is no real reason to “formalize” the group at this time. Meetings should be held at any given opportunities, attaching meetings to other meetings when possible to save on travel.

   Mr Kervella mentioned a survey in July that was sent out to “users” of the products provided by the UNECE, and asked for responses as soon as possible. Results will be compiled in September.

   Items to be covered as time allows:

8. **Inter-regional activities**
   
   a. Meeting on the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation ([http://www.capsca.org](http://www.capsca.org)) (Dr Rooney will attend) Sept 2015, Panama

9. **Regional activities**
   
   a. Asia-Pacific
      
      i. TC Activities
         
         1. Pacific Islands Transport Workshop (Palau) complete
         2. Regional meeting, Jakarta, Indonesia (28 Sept – 2 Oct)
         3. Pacific islands Transport Workshop, Suva, Fiji (30 Nov – 4 Dec)

   b. Latin America and the Caribbean
i. Caribbean training (US funded) complete [Panama City, June 2-6, 2014]. IMO participating.

c. Africa
   i. Regional training Course Africa, Morocco (23 - 27 Nov)

d. Mediterranean (EU funded)
   i. Transport Workshop, Athens, Greece, Feb 2015 (Complete)
   ii. 2nd Transport Workshop, Istanbul, Turkey, 5-9 October, 2015

The meeting was concluded at approximately 1630.