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COVER NOTE

from: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Ms Patricia BUGNOT, Director

date of receipt: 3 March 2005

to: Mr Javier SOLANA, Secretary-General/High Representative

Subject: Draft Decision of the EC/EFTA Joint Committee on Common Transit
amending the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure

Delegations will find attached Commission document SEC(2005) 274 final.

Encl.: SEC(2005) 274 final



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 2.3.2005
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Draft

DECISION OF THE EC/EFTA JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMMON TRANSIT

amending the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure

- Draft common position of the Community -
(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The common transit Convention of 20 May 1987¹ establishes the measures and formalities facilitating the movement of goods between the EC and the EFTA countries.

Annex D2 to Appendix III of the Convention contains the list of the package codes based on Annex V of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation n° 21/rev 1 of August 1994. In order to allow economic operators to use the most updated information and, therefore, to harmonise as far as possible the commercial and administrative practices in the countries applying the Convention, it is important to ensure that the package codes which are used to reflect the kind of packages in a transit declaration should correspond to the latest version of Annex V of the UNECE Recommendation n° 21/rev 1 of August 1994.

Annex D2 to Appendix III of the Convention also contains the reference to the ISO alpha-2 country codes as specified in ISO-3166 of 1 January 1996, which has been updated in several occasions and, therefore, it should be ensured that the list of country codes used in a transit declaration corresponds to the latest version of the ISO – 3166 available.

This is the object of the draft decision n° XX/2005 of the EC-EFTA Joint Committee. This draft decision received the favourable opinion from the EC-EFTA Working group on Common Transit.

This draft decision is submitted to the Council in order to establish a Community position with a view to its final adoption by the EC-EFTA Joint Committee "Common transit" by way of the written procedure.

¹ OJ L 226, 13.8.1987, p.2. Convention as last amended by Decision No 2/2002, OJ L 4, 9.1.2003, p.18.

Draft

DECISION OF THE EC/EFTA JOINT COMMITTEE ON COMMON TRANSIT

amending the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure

THE JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure², and in particular Article 15(3) (a) thereof,

Whereas

- (1) Annex D2 to Appendix III of the Convention contains the list of the package codes based on Annex V of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation n° 21/rev 1 of August 1994.
- (2) Annex V of the aforementioned Recommendation concerning the list of the package codes has been revised several times since its introduction in order to better meet the requirements in the development of practises in trade and transport.
- (3) The latest revision (revision 4) of the aforementioned Recommendation was published on May 2002.
- (4) In order to allow economic operators to use the most updated information and, therefore, to harmonise as far as possible the commercial and administrative practices in the countries applying the Convention, it is important to ensure that the package codes which are used to reflect the kind of packages in a transit declaration should correspond to the latest version of Annex V of the UNECE Recommendation n° 21/rev 1 of August 1994.
- (5) Annex D2 to Appendix III of the Convention also contains the reference to the ISO alpha-2 country codes as specified in ISO-3166 of 1 January 1996, which has been updated in several occasions and, therefore, it should be ensured that the list of country codes used in a transit declaration corresponds to the latest version of the ISO – 3166 available.
- (6) The concerned provisions should therefore be amended accordingly,

² OJ L 226, 13.8.1987, p. 2. Convention as last amended by Decision No 2/2002 (OJ L 4, 9.1.2003, p. 18).

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Annexes D1 and D2 to Appendix III of the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure is amended as shown in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.
2. It shall be applicable from 1 July 2005.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Joint Committee
The President*

ANNEX A

Appendix III of the Convention of 20 May 1987 on a common transit procedure is amended as follows:

1. In Annex D1, Title II, Section B the explanatory text of the attribute 'Kind of packages' is replaced by the following:

"Type/length: an2

The package code presented in Annex D2 shall be used."

2. Annex D2, Section 1 is replaced by the following:

"1. COUNTRY CODES (CNT)

The "ISO alpha-2 Country Code" as specified in ISO - 3166 – 1 of 1997 and subsequent updates shall apply."

3. Annex D2, Section 5 is replaced by the following:

"5. PACKAGE CODE

(UNECE Recommendation n° 21/Rev. 4 of May 2002)

Aerosol	AE
Ampoule, non-protected	AM
Ampoule, protected	AP
Atomizer	AT
Bag	BG
Bag, flexible container	FX
Bag, large	ZB
Bag, multiply	MB
Bag, paper	5M
Bag, paper, multi-wall	XJ
Bag, paper, multi-wall, water resistant	XK
Bag, plastic	EC
Bag, plastics film	XD
Bag, super bulk	43
Bag, textile	5L
Bag, textile, sift proof	XG
Bag, textile, water resistant	XH
Bag, textile, without inner coat/liner	XF
Bag, woven plastic	5H
Bag, woven plastic, sift proof	XB
Bag, woven plastic, water resistant	XC
Bag, woven plastic, without inner coat/liner	XA
Bale, compressed	BL
Bale, non-compressed	BN
Balloon, non-protected	BF
Balloon, protected	BP
Bar	BR

Barrel	BA
Barrel, wooden	2C
Barrel, wooden, bung type	QH
Barrel, wooden, removable head	QJ
Bars, in bundle/bunch/truss	BZ
Basin	BM
Basket	BK
Basket, with handle, cardboard	HC
Basket, with handle, plastic	HA
Basket, with handle, wooden	HB
Bin	BI
Board	BD
Board, in bundle/bunch/truss	BY
Bobbin	BB
Bolt	BT
Bottle, gas	GB
Bottle, non-protected, bulbous	BS
Bottle, non-protected, cylindrical	BO
Bottle, protected bulbous	BV
Bottle, protected cylindrical	BQ
Bottlecrate / bottlerack	BC
Box	BX
Box, aluminium	4B
Box, Commonwealth Handling Equipment Pool (CHEP), Eurobox	DH
Box, fibreboard	4G
Box, for liquids	BW
Box, natural wood	4C
Box, plastic	4H
Box, plastic, expanded	QR
Box, plastic, solid	QS
Box, plywood	4D
Box, reconstituted wood	4F
Box, steel	4A
Box, wooden, natural wood, ordinary	QP
Box, wooden, natural wood, with sift proof walls	QQ
Bucket	BJ
Bulk, gas (at 1031 mbar and 15øC)	VG
Bulk, liquefied gas (at abnormal temperature/pressure)	VQ
Bulk, liquid	VL
Bulk, solid, fine particles (“powders”)	VY
Bulk, solid, granular particles (“grains”)	VR
Bulk, solid, large particles (“nodules”)	VO
Bunch	BH
Bundle	BE
Butt	BU
Cage	CG
Cage, Commonwealth Handling Equipment Pool (CHEP)	DG
Cage, roll	CW
Can, cylindrical	CX
Can, rectangular	CA

Can, with handle and spout	CD
Canister	CI
Canvas	CZ
Capsule	AV
Carboy, non-protected	CO
Carboy, protected	CP
Card	CM
Carton	CT
Cartridge	CQ
Case	CS
Case, isothermic	EI
Case, skeleton	SK
Case, steel	SS
Case, with pallet base	ED
Case, with pallet base, cardboard	EF
Case, with pallet base, metal	EH
Case, with pallet base, plastic	EG
Case, with pallet base, wooden	EE
Cask	CK
Chest	CH
Churn	CC
Clamshell	AI
Coffer	CF
Coffin	CJ
Coil	CL
Composite packaging, glass receptacle	6P
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in aluminium crate	YR
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in aluminium drum	YQ
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in expandable plastic pack	YY
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in fibre drum	YW
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in fibreboard box	YX
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in plywood drum	YT
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in solid plastic pack	YZ
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in steel crate box	YP
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in steel drum	YN
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in wickerwork hamper	YV
Composite packaging, glass receptacle in wooden box	YS
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle	6H
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in aluminium crate	YD
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in aluminium drum	YC
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in fibre drum	YJ
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in fibreboard box	YK
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in plastic drum	YL
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in plywood box	YH
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in plywood drum	YG
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in solid plastic box	YM
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in steel crate box	YB
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in steel drum	YA
Composite packaging, plastic receptacle in wooden box	YF
Cone	AJ

Container, not otherwise specified as transport equipment	CN
Cover	CV
Crate	CR
Crate, beer	CB
Crate, bulk, cardboard	DK
Crate, bulk, plastic	DL
Crate, bulk, wooden	DM
Crate, framed	FD
Crate, fruit	FC
Crate, milk	MC
Crate, multiple layer, cardboard	DC
Crate, multiple layer, plastic	DA
Crate, multiple layer, wooden	DB
Crate, shallow	SC
Creel	CE
Cup	CU
Cylinder	CY
Demijohn, non-protected	DJ
Demijohn, protected	DP
Dispenser	DN
Drum	DR
Drum, aluminium	1B
Drum, aluminium, non-removable head	QC
Drum, aluminium, removable head	QD
Drum, fibre	1G
Drum, iron	DI
Drum, plastic	IH
Drum, plastic, non-removable head	QF
Drum, plastic, removable head	QG
Drum, plywood	1D
Drum, steel	1A
Drum, steel, non-removable head	QA
Drum, steel, removable head	QB
Drum, wooden	1W
Envelope	EN
Envelope, steel	SV
Filmpack	FP
Firkin	FI
Flask	FL
Foodtainer	FT
Footlocker	FO
Frame	FR
Girder	GI
Girders, in bundle/bunch/truss	GZ
Hamper	HR
Hogshead	HG
Ingot	IN
Ingots, in bundle/bunch/truss	IZ
Intermediate bulk container	WA
Intermediate bulk container, aluminium	WD

Intermediate bulk container, aluminium, liquid	WL
Intermediate bulk container, aluminium, pressurised > 10 kpa	WH
Intermediate bulk container, composite	ZS
Intermediate bulk container, composite, flexible plastic, liquids	ZR
Intermediate bulk container, composite, flexible plastic, pressurised	ZP
Intermediate bulk container, composite, flexible plastic, solids	ZM
Intermediate bulk container, composite, rigid plastic, liquids	ZQ
Intermediate bulk container, composite, rigid plastic, pressurised	ZN
Intermediate bulk container, composite, rigid plastic, solids	ZL
Intermediate bulk container, fibreboard	ZT
Intermediate bulk container, flexible	ZU
Intermediate bulk container, metal	WF
Intermediate bulk container, metal, liquid	WM
Intermediate bulk container, metal, other than steel	ZV
Intermediate bulk container, metal, pressure 10 kpa	WJ
Intermediate bulk container, natural wood	ZW
Intermediate bulk container, natural wood, with inner liner	WU
Intermediate bulk container, paper, multi-wall	ZA
Intermediate bulk container, paper, multi-wall, water resistant	ZC
Intermediate bulk container, plastic film	WS
Intermediate bulk container, plywood	ZX
Intermediate bulk container, plywood, with inner liner	WY
Intermediate bulk container, reconstituted wood	ZY
Intermediate bulk container, reconstituted wood, with inner liner	WZ
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic	AA
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, freestanding, liquids	ZK
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, freestanding, pressurised	ZH
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, freestanding, solids	ZF
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, with structural equipment, solids	ZD
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, with structural equipment, liquids	ZJ
Intermediate bulk container, rigid plastic, with structural equipment, pressurised	ZG
Intermediate bulk container, steel	WC
Intermediate bulk container, steel, liquid	WK
Intermediate bulk container, steel, pressurised > 10 kpa	WG
Intermediate bulk container, textile with out coat/liner	WT
Intermediate bulk container, textile, coated	WV
Intermediate bulk container, textile, coated and liner	WX
Intermediate bulk container, textile, with liner	WW
Intermediate bulk container, woven plastic, coated	WP
Intermediate bulk container, woven plastic, coated and liner	WR
Intermediate bulk container, woven plastic, with liner	WQ
Intermediate bulk container, woven plastic, without coat/liner	WN
Jar	JR
Jerrican, cylindrical	JY
Jerrican, plastic	3H
Jerrican, plastic, non-removable head	QM
Jerrican, plastic, removable head	QN
Jerrican, rectangular	JC
Jerrican, steel	3A

Jerrican, steel, non-removable head	QK
Jerrican, steel, removable head	QL
Jug	JG
Jutebag	JT
Keg	KG
Liftvan	LV
Log	LG
Logs, in bundle/bunch/truss	LZ
Lot	LT
Mat	MT
Matchbox	MX
Mutually defined	ZZ
Nest	NS
Net	NT
Net, tube, plastic	NU
Net, tube, textile	NV
Not available	NA
Package	PK
Package, cardboard, with bottle grip-holes	IK
Package, display, cardboard	IB
Package, display, metal	ID
Package, display, plastic	IC
Package, display, wooden	IA
Package, flow	IF
Package, paper wrapped	IG
Package, show	IE
Packet	PA
Pail	PL
Pallet	PX
Pallet, 100cms * 110cms	AH
Pallet, box	PB
Pallet, modular, collars 80cms * 100cms	PD
Pallet, modular, collars 80cms * 120cms	PE
Pallet, modular, collars 80cms * 60cms	AF
Pallet, shrinkwrapped	AG
Parcel	PC
Pen	PF
Pipe	PI
Pipes, in bundle/bunch/truss	PV
Pitcher	PH
Plank	PN
Planks, in bundle/bunch/truss	PZ
Plate	PG
Plates, in bundle/bunch/truss	PY
Pot	PT
Pouch	PO
Punnet	PJ
Rack	RK
Rack, clothing hanger	RJ
Receptacle, fibre	AB

Receptacle, glass	GR
Receptacle, metal	MR
Receptacle, paper	AC
Receptacle, plastic	PR
Receptacle, plastic wrapped	MW
Receptacle, wooden	AD
Rednet	RT
Reel	RL
Ring	RG
Rod	RD
Rods, in bundle/bunch/truss	RZ
Roll	RO
Sachet	SH
Sack	SA
Sack, multi-wall	MS
Sea-chest	SE
Set	SX
Sheet	ST
Sheet, plastic wrapping	SP
Sheetmetal	SM
Sheets, in bundle/bunch/truss	SZ
Shrinkwrapped	SW
Skid	SI
Slab	SB
Sleeve	SY
Slipsheet	SL
Spindle	SD
Spool	SO
Suitcase	SU
Tank, cylindrical	TY
Tank, rectangular	TK
Tea-chest	TC
Tierce	TI
Tin	TN
Tray	PU
Tray, one layer no cover, cardboard	DV
Tray, one layer no cover, plastic	DS
Tray, one layer no cover, polystyrene	DU
Tray, one layer no cover, wooden	DT
Tray, two layers no cover, cardboard	DY
Tray, two layers no cover, plastic tray	DW
Tray, two layers no cover, wooden	DX
Trunk	TR
Truss	TS
Tub	TB
Tub, with lid	TL
Tube	TU
Tube, collapsible	TD
Tube, with nozzle	TV
Tubes, in bundle/bunch/truss	TZ

Tun	TO
Uncaged	UC
Unpacked or unpackaged	NE
Unpacked or unpackaged, multiple units	NG
Unpacked or unpackaged, single unit	NF
Vacuum-packed	VP
Vanpack	VK
Vat	VA
Vial	VI
Wickerbottle	WB