



Federale Overheidsdienst  
Mobiliteit en Vervoer  
Wegvervoer en Verkeersveiligheid

Dienst Reglementering Voertuigen

City Atrium  
Vooruitgangstraat 56  
1210 Brussel  
Tel. 02 277 31 11 - Fax 02 277 40 05

Uw contactpersoon  
Sabine Verduyts  
Tel. : 02 277 39 04  
e-mail : info.adr@mobiliteit.gov.be

Ondememingsnr. 0 308 357 852

metro: Rogier  
trein: Noordstation  
bus- en tramhalte: Rogier  
bewaakte fietsenstalling: Noordstation

To the ADR Contracting Parties

Uw bericht van : Uw kenmerk : Ons kenmerk : Bijlage(n) : Brussel de  
M281 1

**Concerning** : Carriage of dangerous goods by road – Multilateral Agreement M 281

Dear Madam, Sir,

Under section 1.5.1 of ADR, we propose the above mentioned multilateral agreement concerning the packaging of waste materials that have been contaminated or suspected to have been contaminated with a virus causing hemorrhagic fever such as Ebola, for transport to final disposal.

Given current events in West Africa regarding the resurgence of the Ebola virus, the extreme high level of contagiousness of the Ebola Virus Disease and people still travelling away from the affected areas pose a risk to public health in the destination countries.

The health care sector has been preparing itself to deal with incoming patients contaminated with Ebola in a safe manner. The packaging of waste materials that have been contaminated with or are suspected of having been contaminated with a virus causing haemorrhagic fever such as Ebola, for transport to final disposal, has been identified as a major problem.

Waste materials that have been contaminated with or are suspected of having been contaminated with a virus causing haemorrhagic fever such as Ebola are classified as UN 2814, Infectious substances, affecting humans, class 6.2, category A of ADR. ADR requires that UN 2814 has to be packed in accordance with the packaging instruction P620.

The packagings that are currently available for UN 2814 are not suitable for packaging of medical and other waste contaminated with Ebola:

- the packagings are too small for the huge amount of waste produced when a patient is hospitalised (e.g.: 1 ton of medical waste produced in 72 hours as a result of a case of infection with the Marburg virus in the Netherlands)
- the fill opening must be big enough to prevent from having to push or stuff the contaminated suits, sheets ect in the packaging because this increases the risk of contamination of the medical staff.

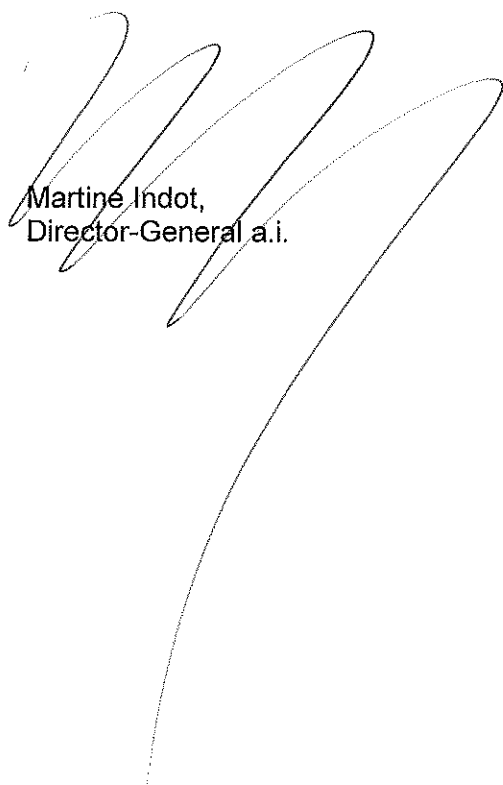
Larger packagings are both necessary and also safer. The risk of contamination of members of the medical staff should be reduced as much as possible. Therefore the waste should be manipulated as little as possible.

In addition suspected suitcases from incoming flights in the airports should be dealt with.

Belgian and Dutch experts have been working together to prepare this multilateral agreement: experts from hospitals and health care centres, incineration facilities, waste collectors, packing industry, biosafety experts, experts in infectious diseases, the competent authorities for ADR, the competent authorities for waste regulations, etc...

If you agree, we would be very grateful if you could countersign this agreement and return a copy to us and to the UNECE secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Martine Indot,  
Director-General a.i.