RID: 2nd Session of the RID Committee of Experts’ standing working group
(Copenhagen, 18 to 22 November 2013)

Subject: Proposal to amend paragraph (k) in Chapter 7.7 RID

Proposal transmitted by the International Railway Union (UIC) and the International Rail
Transport Committee (CIT)

1. Document OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2013/10, transmitted to the RID Committee of Experts’ standing
working group by the OTIF Secretariat, proposes to amend paragraph (k) of Chapter 7.7 RID
in the following way:

“(k) are lamps which do not contain any radioactive material and do not contain more than
1 kg mercury and which

– are collected directly from individuals and households when carried to a collection or
recycling facility, or

– which, in a used, damaged or defective condition, each contain not more than 1 g of
dangerous goods with not more than 30 g of dangerous goods per package when
carried from a collection or recycling facility. The lamps shall be packed in outer
packagings, sufficient for preventing release of the contents under normal conditions
of carriage, which meet the general provisions of 4.1.1.1 and that are capable of
passing a drop test of not less than 1.2 m.”
2. The UIC and CIT suggest that this provision should be simplified as follows:

"(k) are lamps which do not contain any radioactive material and do not contain more than 1 g mercury provided that they are packaged so that the projectile effects of any rupture of the bulb will be contained within the package; or".

Justification

3. The purpose of Chapter 7.7 of the RID is unusual in the sense that it is also intended for passengers themselves. Chapter 7.7 must therefore be simple and easy to understand. The proposal quoted in point 1 (above) is too detailed and too complicated for the purpose of the chapter. Moreover, passengers do not in fact carry used lamps for recycling as the proposed amendment would seem to suggest.

4. Chapter 7.7 should be limited to governing the carriage of lamps, it should also take account of the changes made to other points of the RID. It should therefore simply refer to lamps not containing any radioactive material and not containing more than 1 g of mercury.