TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF OTIF

Amendments to the Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

Secretary General
A 81-03/501.2013
9 April 2013
Original: German/English/French
In circular A 81-03/507.2012 dated 27 November 2012, we sent you in document OTIF/RID/NOT/2013/Add.1 the amendments to the 1 January 2013 edition of RID adopted by the 52nd session of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Riga, 13 November 2012).

Under Article 35 § 4 of COTIF, decisions of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods are deemed to be adopted unless one quarter of the Member States have objected within four months from the date of notification.

This period expired on 26 March 2013.

No Member State has lodged an objection against the amendments. According to the decision of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, these amendments should if possible be implemented at the same time as the equivalent amendments to ADR, but on 1 July 2013 at the latest. According to information from the UNECE Secretariat, the amendments to ADR will enter into force on 1 April 2013. As Article 35 § 3 of COTIF says that the earliest amendments can enter into force is on the first day of the sixth month following that during which the Secretary General has given notice of them to the Member States, the amendments to RID will enter into force on 1 May 2013.

Lastly, we should point out that at the Joint Meeting (Berne, 18 – 22 March 2013), various errors were noted in relation to the references to standards in the amendments that entered into force on 1 January 2013. In the OTIF Secretariat's view, these amendments are of an editorial nature only, so it is not necessary to apply the usual implementation procedure in this case. These corrections are shown, together with some others, in the attached corrigendum 2 to the 2013 edition of RID.

Yours faithfully

(François Davenne)
Secretary General

Annexes
– Corrigendum 2 to the 2013 edition of RID

cc for information:
– the railway undertakings of the Member States of OTIF
– interested international organisations