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1. IDENTIFICATION

Document Category: Safety Guide

Working ID: DS574

Proposed Title: IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSG-33 (Rev. 2), Schedules of Provisions of the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2025 Edition)

Proposed Action: Revision of a publication – IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSG-33 (Rev. 1) Schedules of Provisions of the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2018 Edition); Vienna 2021

Review Committee(s) or Group: TRANSSC

Technical Officer(s): Alenka Bujnova

2. BACKGROUND

IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSG-33 (Rev. 1), Schedules of Provisions of the IAEA Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2018 Edition), was published in 2021 in support of SSR-6 (Rev. 1). The Safety Guide provides a structured set of schedules that assist consignors, carriers, competent authorities and other users in identifying the applicable requirements of SSR-6 (Rev. 1), in a user-friendly format for specific types of radioactive material, packages and shipments. The publication facilitates consistent implementation of SSR-6 (Rev. 1) by providing a practical pathway from classification of radioactive material and assignment of the applicable UN number to identification of the general provisions, and of the operational and administrative requirements in the corresponding schedule. The references are provided so that SSR-6 (Rev. 1) can be readily consulted when necessary.

In 2025, the IAEA published IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSR-6 (Rev. 2), Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material, 2025 Edition, which includes revised and additional provisions in areas such as classification, transport controls, marking and labelling, consignor responsibilities, transport documentation and administrative requirements. In light of this, a feedback analysis of SSG-33 (Rev. 1) was performed — the report is attached as an Annex to this DPP. It indicates that SSG-33 (Rev. 1) requires a comprehensive revision to reflect the changes in SSR-6 (Rev. 2).

3. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE PUBLICATION

As the primary purpose of SSG-33 is to identify the applicable SSR-6 requirements through schedules linked to specific radioactive material shipments, it is essential that the publication remains aligned with the latest edition of SSR-6. Continued reliance on references based on SSR-6 (Rev. 1) would diminish the effectiveness of the guidance and could create uncertainty or inconsistencies in implementation. For example, users may apply outdated regulatory requirements that have been revised in SSR-6 (Rev. 2). Revising SSG-33 (Rev. 1) will therefore provide significant value to Member States, competent authorities, consignors and carriers by

maintaining a practical implementation tool that reflects the latest edition of SSR-6. The publication is expected to remain one of the principal resources for supporting the practical application of SSR-6. TRANSSC members continue to identify SSG-33 as a useful and widely used publication, further demonstrating the need to keep it current and aligned with the latest requirements.

4. OBJECTIVE

The objective and scope of the publication will remain fundamentally unchanged. However, the schedules, references and associated explanatory text will be updated to reflect the provisions of SSR-6 (Rev. 2) and to improve usability where appropriate.

The objective of SSG-33 (Rev. 2) will continue to be to provide practical guidance in the classification of radioactive material with the appropriate UN number, in determining the correct package type and the appropriate operational and administrative requirements to be applied for shipment under SSR-6 (Rev. 2). The schedules will identify the applicable requirements of SSR-6 (Rev. 2).

The publication is intended for consignors, carriers, competent authorities and other organizations involved in the transport of radioactive material. Enforcement personnel inspecting shipments or auditing shipping records will also benefit from this Guide.

5. SCOPE

The publication can be used for all transport of radioactive material included in the scope of SSR-6 (Rev. 2). It will apply to shipments of radioactive material in all types of packages – from excepted packages to industrial packages, Type A packages, Type B packages, Type C packages and packages containing fissile material, as well as shipments of unpackaged radioactive material, where applicable. It will contain 26 schedules corresponding to the UN numbers and associated proper shipping names for the radioactive material to be shipped.

Deviations (i.e. exceptions and additions) from SSR-6 (Rev. 2), necessitated by national and modal regulations and carrier restrictions, will not be reflected in this Safety Guide.

The publication is not intended to provide detailed technical explanations of the SSR-6 (Rev. 2) requirements themselves. It will not include details, for example, of the design, construction or testing of packagings.

The revision will review and update all the schedules, references and supporting explanatory text currently included in SSG-33 (Rev. 1) to align with SSR-6 (Rev. 2).

6. PLACE IN THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF THE RELEVANT SERIES AND INTERFACES WITH EXISTING AND/OR PLANNED PUBLICATIONS

SSG-33 (Rev. 2) will be one of the Safety Guides that supports SSR-6 (Rev. 2), Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material, 2025 Edition, providing a schedule-based mechanism for identifying the applicable requirements of SSR-6 (Rev. 2) corresponding to specific radioactive material shipments and package types.

The publication will interface closely with other Safety Guides supporting SSR-6 (Rev. 2), particularly SSG-26 (Rev. 2) (currently in preparation as DS554). It will also support the implementation of international transport regulations derived from SSR-6 (Rev. 2), including the UN Model Regulations, the ICAO Technical Instructions and the IMO IMDG Code.

7. OVERVIEW

The revised Safety Guide will retain the overall structure of SSG-33 (Rev. 1) while updating all schedules to reflect SSR-6 (Rev. 2). The publication will continue to provide a step-by-step approach beginning with classification of radioactive material and assignment of the appropriate UN number, followed by identification of the applicable general provisions, and of the operational and administrative requirements of SSR-6 (Rev. 2). Considering that the users of this Safety Guide are mainly carriers and consignors, provisions for package design and testing (Section VI and VII of the SSR 6) are not to be included in this Safety Guide.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background
Objective
Scope
Structure

2. DEFINITIONS AND CLASSIFICATION

Definitions

Classification of material and packages

- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2908: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE – EMPTY PACKAGING
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2909: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE – ARTICLES MANUFACTURED FROM NATURAL URANIUM or DEPLETED URANIUM or NATURAL THORIUM
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2910: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE – LIMITED QUANTITY OF MATERIAL
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2911: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE – INSTRUMENTS or ARTICLES
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2912: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA-I) non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2913: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, SURFACE CONTAMINATED OBJECTS (SCO-I, SCO-II or SCO-III) non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2915: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE A PACKAGE, non-special form, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2916: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE B(U) PACKAGE, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2917: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE B(M) PACKAGE, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2919: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TRANSPORTED UNDER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2977: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, URANIUMHEXAFLUORIDE, FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 2978: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3321: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA-II) non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3322: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA-III) non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3323: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE C PACKAGE, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3324: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA-II), FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3325: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, LOW SPECIFIC ACTIVITY (LSA-III), FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3326: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, SURFACE CONTAMINATED OBJECTS (SCO-I or SCO-II), FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3327: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE A PACKAGE, FISSILE, non-special form
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3328: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE B(U) PACKAGE, FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3329: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE B(M) PACKAGE, FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3330: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE C PACKAGE, FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3331: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TRANSPORTED UNDER SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT, FISSILE

- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3332: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE A PACKAGE, SPECIAL FORM, non-fissile or fissile-excepted
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3333: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, TYPE A PACKAGE, SPECIAL FORM, FISSILE
- SCHEDULE FOR UN 3507: URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, EXCEPTED PACKAGE, less than 0.1 kg per package, non-fissile or fissile-excepted

3. REFERENCES

4. CONTRIBUTORS TO DRAFTING AND REVIEW

For each schedule, the following structure is used:

- 1) General provisions;
- 2) Contents limits for packages;
- 3) Contamination;
- 4) Maximum dose rates (and transport index and criticality safety index, where applicable);
- 5) Categories of packages and overpacks;
- 6) Marking and labelling;
- 7) Requirements before shipment;
- 8) Provisions concerning transport operations.

8. PRODUCTION SCHEDULE:

Provisional schedule for preparation of the publication, outlining realistic expected dates for each step:

	<i>Safety Guides</i>
STEP 1: Preparing a DPP	DONE
STEP 2: Internal review of the DPP (Approval by the Coordination Committee)	August 2026
STEP 3: Review of the DPP by the review Committee(s) (Approval by review Committee(s))	November 2026
STEP 4: Review of the DPP by the CSS (approval by CSS) or information of the CSS on the DPP	April 2027
STEP 5: Preparing the draft publication	Dec 2026 – June 2027
STEP 6: First internal review of the draft publication (Approval by the Coordination Committee)	July 2027
STEP 7: First review of the draft publication by the review Committee(s) (Approval for submission to Member States for comments)	November 2027
STEP 8: Soliciting comments by Member States	January – April 2028
STEP 9: Addressing comments by Member States	May 2028 – June 2028
STEP 10: Second internal review of the draft publication (Approval by the Coordination Committee)	August 2028
STEP 11: Second review of the draft publication by the review Committee(s) (Approval of the draft)	November 2028
STEP 12: (For Safety Standards) Editing of the draft publication in MTCD and endorsement of the draft publication by the CSS (For nuclear security guidance) DDG's decision on whether additional consultation is needed, establishment by the Publications Committee and editing	Q1 2029
STEP 13: Approval by the Board of Governors (for SF and SR only)	
STEP 14: Target publication date	Q2/Q3 2029

9. RESOURCES

Estimated resources involved by the Secretariat: 15 person-weeks and the Member States: 2 consultancy meetings (up to 5 days / 5 experts per one meeting), 20 days of home-based assignments.

ANNEX

FEEDBACK ANALYSIS REPORT

1. Purpose

This feedback analysis report supports the proposal to revise IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSG-33 (Rev. 1) to align with the 2025 Edition of the Transport Regulations, SSR-6 (Rev. 2). The analysis evaluates the impact of changes introduced in SSR-6 (Rev. 2) on the existing schedules, references and explanatory material contained in SSG-33 (Rev. 1).

2. Basis for the Analysis

The analysis involved a review of the changes in the provision of SSR-6 (Rev. 2) and comparison with the content of SSG-33 (Rev. 1). NSS-OUI was also checked, but no additional feedback had been provided since the publication of SSG-33 (Rev. 1).

3. Summary of Findings

The review identified a number of areas where SSG-33 (Rev. 1) requires revision to ensure full consistency with SSR-6 (Rev. 2). Impact of all changes in SSR-6 Rev. on SSG-33 will need to be evaluated; the main topics to be addressed in the revision include the following:

- Addition of new and revised definitions;
- Changes related to fissile exceptions;
- LSA/SCO mixed shipment provisions;
- Deletion of paragraphs (e.g. 524A, 567 and 656);
- Changes to paragraphs concerning freight containers as packagings (e. g. 526-528);
- Package marking changes including multiple UN number provisions (paragraph 532);
- Revisions to paragraphs 544 and new paragraph 544A;
- New provisions in paragraphs 546 and 546A for empty uncleaned packagings;
- Changes to Table 10 and footnotes;
- New paragraph 572A and revisions to paragraphs 573, 579, 580 and 581;
- Changes to paragraphs 802, 819, 820 and new paragraph 821B;
- Updates to paragraph 823 and related administrative requirements.

4. Conclusion

The analysis demonstrated that a comprehensive revision of SSG-33 (Rev. 1) is justified and necessary to support SSR-6 (Rev. 2). The proposed revision will preserve the established schedule-based format while incorporating all relevant SSR-6 (Rev. 2) changes. Consideration should be given during the revision process to identify opportunities for improving the navigation and usability of the schedules. The revision of SSG-33 (Rev. 1) is in line with the long term strategy for the Safety Standards and TRANSSC's plan for the implementation of that strategy.