

UN/SCEGHS/3/INF.18

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally
Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals**
(Third session, 10-12 July 2002)

**Decisions taken during the session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on TDG
regarding the Global Harmonization of Systems of Classification and Labelling of
Chemicals**

(Agenda item 11, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/41)

Note by the secretariat

At its 21st session (1-10 July 2002), the Sub-Committee considered issues linked to the GHS. Decisions taken are as follows:

Definition of LD₅₀ (oral)

On the basis of a proposal by the United States of America (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/24) the TDG Sub-Committee amended the definition for LD₅₀ (oral toxicity) in paragraph 2.6.2.1.1 of the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods to take account of the new OECD Test Guidelines 420, 423 and 425 which now replace Test Guideline 401.

"LD₅₀ (median lethal dose) for acute oral toxicity is the statistically derived single dose of a substance that can be expected to cause death with 14 days in 50 per cent of young adult albino rats when administered by the oral route. The LD₅₀ value is expressed in terms of mass of test substance per mass of test animal (mg/kg)".

Substances hazardous for the aquatic environment the Sub-Committee adopted a new Chapter 2.9 including provisions concerning the classification of substances hazardous to the environment, derived from Chapter 3.10 of the GHS. These provisions will allow classification into class 9 of substances and mixtures which do not meet the classification criteria for any other class (1 to 8) but which meet the criteria for substances hazardous to the aquatic environment.

The question of application of these criteria to other dangerous substances (classes 1 to 8) and of the related GHS hazard communication elements will be discussed during the next biennium.

Criteria for the corrosiveness of liquids and solids belonging to Class 8, packing group III, for steel and aluminium

New criteria have been adopted (para. 2.8.2.5 (c) (ii) of the Model Regulations) and a new section 37.4 has been added to the Manual of Tests and Criteria on the basis of a German proposal (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/6) which has been amended (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/CRP.2/Add.8).

Definition of flammable gases

The proposal of EIGA in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/53 (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/5) was not adopted.

Toxic by inhalation substances

New entries for toxic by inhalation substances were added on the basis of a US proposal (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/24) (Refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/CRP.2/Add.5 for adopted texts)

Classification of aerosols

The proposal by the secretariat to include a new section 31.1 for classification of flammable aerosols on the basis of the GHS was adopted with a few modifications.
(Discussion documents : ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/48-ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/10; TDG INF.34/GHS INF.9, TDG INF.50, TDG INF.54)

Refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/CRP.2/Add.8 and -/Add.9 for adopted changes

The addition of a NOTE to 31.2.1 ("Aerosol dispensers not submitted to flammability classification procedures in this sub-section shall be classified as extremely flammable") was adopted but was placed between square brackets subject to concurrence by the GHS Sub-Committee

Comprehensibility testing of GHS pictograms and transport of dangerous goods labels (Doc. ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/46-ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/1, United States)

The Sub-Committee noted that phase I of the study (emergency response) had been completed but the results were still being compiled and analysed. Phase II of the study intended to evaluate transport worker reactions had not yet been carried out and the expert from the USA would present the complete results next December.