COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS <u>Sub-Committee of Experts on the</u> <u>Transport of Dangerous Goods</u> (Twenty-fourth session, 1-10 December 2003, agenda item 7 (c))

HARMONIZATION WITH THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

Physical hazards

Comments on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2003/54 (United States of America)

Harmonized classification criteria for flammable liquids

<u>Transmitted by the International Technical Committee for the prevention and</u> <u>Extinction of Fire (CTIF)</u>

CTIF welcomes the initiative taken by the expert from the United States of America to introduce the GHS classification of flammable liquids into the UN-Recommendations.

CTIF can confirm that emergency personnel, as well as those in North America, are trained to deal with "combustible" liquids in this flash point range in the same manner as flammable liquids with flash points below 60 °C, because ignition of these liquids is possible in an accident situation.

Furthermore the suggested extension of the definition what is a "flammable liquid" will help train responders in the same manner in the different climates of the world.

In a number of countries the temperature outside a container exposed to the bright sun is well beyond 60 °C. Under such circumstances the evaporated vapours from a spilled liquid with a flash point above 60 °C will be in a flammable range and thus present an ignition hazard.

CTIF supports the proposal to harmonize the classification criteria for flammable liquids in line with GHS as proposed by the expert from the United States of America.