

## COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally  
Harmonized System of Classification  
and Labelling of Chemicals

Sixteenth session,  
Geneva, 10 -12 (a.m) December 2008  
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

### HAZARD COMMUNICATION ISSUES

#### Symbol for the hazardous to the aquatic environment

#### Note by the secretariat

#### **Introduction**

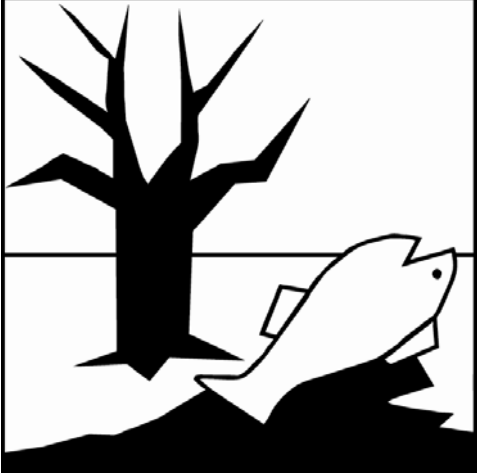

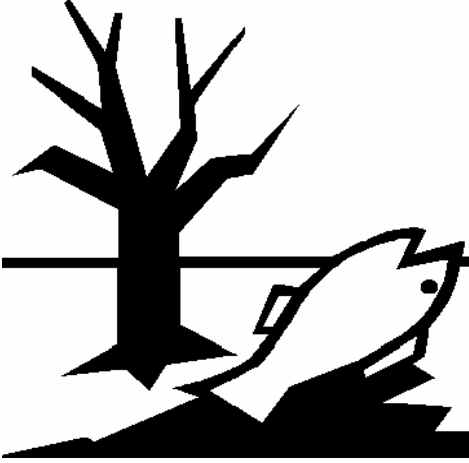


1. The attention of the secretariat has been brought to some differences in the symbol applicable to substances and mixtures hazardous to the aquatic environment which appear in different parts of the GHS text. The differences concern mainly the fish and the line under the tree (e.g. fish with or without fins or variations on the thickness of the line under the tree).
2. Since the GHS symbol was created following the model of the existing symbol for the same hazard prescribed by Annex II of Directive 67/548/EEC<sup>1</sup>, the secretariat is of the opinion that the differences observed in the GHS for this symbol are not intended.
3. The “fish and tree” symbol will become mandatory for inland transport of dangerous goods (RID/ADR/ADN) as from January 2009 and maritime transport (IMDG Code) as from 2010.
4. International transport of dangerous goods often involves different transport modes and therefore it is important that all the applicable labels and placards are harmonized. Moreover, non-compliance with the label and placard models prescribed by these regulations may be subject to penalties.

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<sup>1</sup> *Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.*

**Action requested of the Sub-Committee**

5. In order to ensure that the same symbol is used across the different sectors implementing the GHS as well as within the same sector in all countries, and to avoid problems with its implementation, the Sub-Committee is invited to decide on the correct symbol to be reproduced in the third revised edition of the GHS.
6. Following the decision made by the Sub-Committee, corrigenda to the symbols introduced from the GHS into the relevant transport legal instruments or recommendations will be issued, when deemed appropriate.
7. Examples of the different symbols currently used in the GHS, as well as the original pictogram from Directive 67/548/EEC are reproduced hereafter.

<b>Original symbol (from Directive 67/548/EEC)</b>	<b>Chapter 1.4, par. 1.4.10.3 Annex 3, tables for hazards to the aquatic environment (pages 391 and 393, English version)</b>
	
<b>Chapter 4.1, decision logics 4.1.1 and 4.1.3) and Annex 2, tables A2.28 (a), and A2.28 (b) (pages 289 and 292, English version)</b>	<b>Annex 1, tables for aquatic toxicity (page 259 of the English version)</b>
	
<b>Pictogram required by the forthcoming CLP Regulation (European Union)</b>	
	

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