

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

Seventeenth session

Geneva, 29 June – 1 July 2009

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

UPDATING OF THE THIRD REVISED EDITION OF THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

Physical hazards

Terms of reference for the correspondence group on combustible dusts

Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

Based on conversations with other delegates, the following Terms of Reference are proposed for the correspondence group on combustible dusts

1. Survey the members of the Sub-committee on their existing practices/regulations for addressing the hazards of combustible dusts in workplaces. The correspondence group will be comprised of representatives that are subject matter experts who will work through e-mail and teleconference. The type of background information that would be collected includes:
 - (a) Existing definitions or criteria for combustible dust, including any analytical methods used;
 - (b) Requirements (if any) for hazard communication on labels and SDSs;
 - (c) Recommended safe handling measures; and
 - (d) Identification of issues related to addressing combustible dusts in the GHS.
 2. Analyze the information collected and prepare an informal paper to be presented to the Sub-committee summarizing the issues, as well as documenting the current practices/regulations that address combustible dusts. If appropriate, depending on the outcome of the analysis, the informal paper may propose future work to the Sub-committee to develop a hazard communication scheme for combustible dusts created in workplaces.
 3. The informal working group will develop recommendations for the Sub-committee to address combustible dusts.
-