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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 Transport of Dangerous Goods

Thirty-eighth session

Geneva, 29 November–7 December 2010 Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work for the biennium 2011–2012

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

Twentieth session

Geneva, 7–9 December 2010 Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work for the biennium 2011–2012

Draft terms of reference for the work on corrosivity criteria

Note by the secretariat¹

Introduction

1. The secretariat reproduces hereafter the draft terms of reference for the work on corrosivity criteria for consideration by the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) and the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee), in accordance with the decision taken by the latter at its nineteenth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/38, paragraphs 71 and 72).

Proposal

- 2. The TDG and GHS sub-committees are invited to consider the following draft terms of reference for the work on corrosivity criteria:
- (a) Verify the definition of "skin destruction" as mentioned in the Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods complemented with references to the Organisation for the Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) test guidelines. If the definition is not aligned with paragraph 3.2.2.4.1 in Chapter 3.2 of the GHS, propose appropriate improvements;

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¹ In accordance with ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/38, paragraph 72.

- (b) Identify the discrepancies between assignment to sub-categories 1A, 1B and 1C, based on testing and the one based on theoretical approaches (bridging principles, mixtures calculations, pH...);
- (c) Identify differences in assignment to categories in lists provided by different regulations and guidance documents for the most common substances. Analyse the reasons for these differences and use these results for the work under paragraphs 1, 2 and 4.
- (d) Check the way OECD guidelines are referenced to and their relevance.