

## **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**

**1 December 2011**

**Twenty-second session**

Geneva, 7 (p.m) – 9 December 2011

Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Implementation of the GHS:**

**Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations**

### **Preparation for the first evaluation of progress with implementation of the Strategic Approach to International to Chemicals Management**

**Transmitted by the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to  
International Chemicals Management (SAICM)**

#### **A. Introduction**

1. The purpose of this informal paper is convey information on preparations for the first evaluation of progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the results of a preliminary collection of data for 2009 and 2010 which includes information on conformity with the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

#### **B. Background**

2. One function of the International Conference on Chemicals Management is to undertake periodic reviews of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management in accordance with paragraph 24 of its Overarching Policy Strategy. Two of its tasks in that regard are “to receive reports from all relevant stakeholders on progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach and to disseminate information as appropriate” and “to evaluate the implementation of the Strategic Approach with a view to reviewing progress against the 2020 target and taking strategic decisions, programming, prioritizing and updating the approach as necessary”.

3. At its second session the Conference decided that it would undertake its first formal evaluation of progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach at its third session to be held Nairobi, 17-21 September 2012. To that end it requested the secretariat to prepare a baseline estimates report for the period 2006–2008 and a first report on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Approach during the period 2009–2011.

4. The second session of the Conference also adopted a set of 20 indicators for measuring progress in achieving the objectives of the Strategic Approach in the following five areas: risk reduction, knowledge and information, governance, capacity-building and technical cooperation, and illegal international traffic.

5. Indicator 6 concerns the number of countries and organizations providing information according to internationally harmonized standards. Progress in this area will take into account the number of countries and organizations with labelling standards for chemicals and conformity of those standards with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (the GHS).

### **C. Progress to date**

6. The secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management has prepared a draft baseline estimates report for 2006-2008 using readily available information and a preliminary report on the results of data collected from Governments, inter-governmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations for 2009-2010. Both reports were recently considered by the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (Belgrade, 15-18 November 2011) and are available on the website of the Strategic Approach ([www.saicm.org](http://www.saicm.org)) as pre-session documents SAICM/OEWG.1/INF/1 and SAICM/OEWG.1/INF/2.

7. The annex to the present note contains an extract of document SAICM/OEWG.1/INF/2 and a summary of some of the quantitative data collected on indicator 6. This information was obtained from 92 stakeholders including 64 Governments, 9 intergovernmental organizations and 19 non-governmental organizations. A range of responses from 29 to 41 % were obtained for types of chemicals for which information was provided in conformity with the GHS. Pesticides were identified the most frequently by 41% of respondents. The table contained in the annex shows the detailed summary of results obtained for GHS conformity. Qualitative information collected using the online tool will be used to provide context to the data collected.

### **D. Moving forward**

8. The secretariat will complete the data collection for the first progress report by reopening its electronic data collection tool to receive submissions until the end of January 2012. A report on progress in implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management will be considered by the third session of the Conference to make its first evaluation of reviewing progress against the 2020 goal.

9. Strategic Approach focal points in each country will be contacted directly by the Strategic Approach secretariat to assist in coordinating information provision from their county and organization. Any stakeholder with additional relevant information is invited to provide it as supplementary information and to contact the secretariat of the Strategic Approach in this regard. The secretariat will continue to remain in contact with the secretariat of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling particularly during the preparation of documents for the third session of the Conference in September 2012.

**Contact for further information:**

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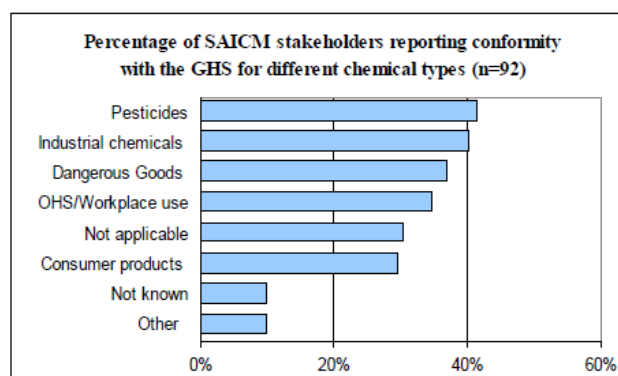
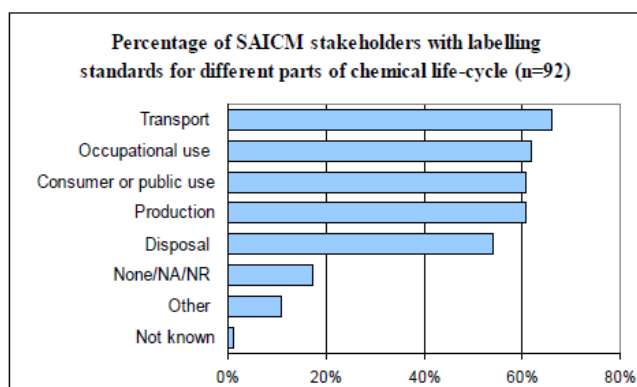
## Annex

### Extract from SAICM/OEWG.1/INF/2 on the first progress report on implementation of progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach: Results of preliminary data collection for 2009 and 2010

#### 6. Provision of information according to internationally harmonized standards (incl. GHS)

**Indicator 6: Number of countries (and organizations) providing information according to internationally harmonized standards**

Progress against this indicator was evaluated by taking into account data submitted by stakeholders on provision of information in accordance with internationally harmonized standards and conformity with the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).



A range of responses from 54 to 66 percent were obtained for the implementation of labelling standards for hazards and/or risks posed by chemicals. The labelling of chemicals in transport was identified most frequently in 66 percent of cases (61 respondents)

On average Governments reported having labelling requirements or standards for 3.5 of the five specified life-cycle stages. 42 per cent of Governments had labelling requirements for all five stages referred to in the questionnaire.

A range of responses from 29 to 41 per cent were obtained depending on the category of chemical judged to be in conformity with the requirements of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals. Pesticides were identified most frequently by 41 per cent (38 respondents) as conforming with the GHS.

On average Governments reported having assessed the conformity with the GHS for 2.17 categories of chemicals. Twenty-five per cent reported having assessed conformity for the 5 categories referred to in the questionnaire.

The number of respondents answering "not applicable" will be investigated further.

## Table

Extract from SAICM/OEWG.1/INF/2/Add.1 containing the detailed results for the data collected on the number of countries and organizations providing information according to internationally harmonized standards - conformity with the GHS

Stakeholder	Regional group	Number of countries	Dangerous Goods		Pesticides		Consumer products		OHS Workplace use		Industrial chemicals		Other		Not applicable		Not known	
Government	Africa	14	5	36%	6	43%	3	21%	4	29%	5	36%	1	7%	5	36%	2	14%
	Asia-Pacific	7	2	29%	2	29%	2	29%	3	43%	4	57%	0	0%	1	14%	1	14%
	Central and Eastern Europe	14	7	50%	8	57%	8	57%	5	36%	9	64%	1	7%	3	21%	1	7%
	Latin America and the Caribbean	15	4	27%	3	20%		0%	3	20%	3	20%	2	13%	5	33%	3	20%
	Western Europe and Others	14	9	64%	9	64%	10	71%	11	79%	10	71%	1	7%	3	21%	0	0%
	<b>Government Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11%</b>
	<b>IGO total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>44%</b>		<b>0%</b>
	<b>NGO total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11%</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10%</b>
Dev. Countries	Least developed country	13	3	23%	5	38%	3	23%	3	23%	3	23%	1	8%	4	31%	3	23%
	Lower middle Income country	9	4	44%	4	44%	2	22%	1	11%	4	44%	1	11%	4	44%	0	0%
	Other low Income country	2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%	0	0%	1	50%	0	0%
	Upper middle Income country	15	4	27%	4	27%	3	20%	5	33%	5	33%	1	7%	4	27%	3	20%
	<b>Dev. Countries</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15%</b>
	<b>SIDS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>44%</b>	