

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**

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work for the biennium 2013–2014

Programme of work for the biennium 2013-2014: aspiration hazard – viscosity criterion for classification of mixtures

**Transmitted by the International Paint and Printing Ink Council
(IPPIC)**

I. Introduction

1. At the twentieth session of the Sub-Committee IPPIC presented informal document INF.28 regarding Chapter 3.10 of the GHS on aspiration hazard, and specifically the absence of viscosity criteria suitable for mixtures such as paints and printing inks, for which it is not practicable to measure kinematic viscosity at 40°C.
2. IPPIC proposed to develop appropriate viscosity criteria determined at 23°C, using a method such as flow cups according to ISO 2431, for inclusion in paragraph 3.10.3.3 of the GHS (with consequential changes to the Manual of Tests and Criteria as necessary). The Sub-Committee agreed to include this item in its programme of work for the 2011-2012 biennium on the understanding that IPPIC would lead the work.
3. During the 2011-2012 biennium IPPIC has sought to initiate the relevant work internally within its membership. To date however it has not been possible to execute the necessary work via this route, and tenders for the work are now to be invited from third-party organisations such as research institutes.
4. This issue remains of high importance for paint and printing ink manufacturers, and IPPIC intends to submit a proposal for modification of Chapter 3.10 of the GHS during the 2013-2014 biennium.

II. Proposal

5. The Sub-Committee is therefore requested to retain the issue of aspiration hazard viscosity criteria in its programme of work for the next biennium.