

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

2 July 2014

Twenty-seventh session

Geneva, 2 – 4 July 2014

Items 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

Report on discussion on corrosivity criteria of the Sub- Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods on its 45th session

Submitted by the expert from the Netherlands

Introduction

1. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) held its forty-fifth session from 23 June to 2 July 2014.

2. Under item 11 (g) of its agenda (Issues relating to the GHS), the TDG Sub-Committee considered the work of the intersessional joint TDG-GHS working group on corrosivity criteria.

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/25 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/3 (The Netherlands on behalf of the Working Group);

Informal documents: UN/SCETDG/45/INF.3 + Add.1 - UN/SCEGHS/27/INF.3 + Add.1 (The Netherlands on behalf of the Working Group)
UN/SCETDG/45/INF.32 - UN/SCEGHS/27/INF.9; (The Netherlands on behalf of WG)
UN/SCETDG/45/INF.64 - UN/SCEGHS/27/INF.18 (FEA)
UN/SCETDG/45/INF.65 - UN/SCEGHS/27/INF.19 (Spain)

3. The outcome of the discussions is summarized hereafter.

Outcome of the discussion on corrosivity criteria

4. The experts of the TDG Sub-Committee expressed their appreciation of the work carried out by the intersessional Working Group as presented in the documents.

5. The experts of the TDG Sub-Committee supported in principle the architecture of the approach as presented by the Working Group in the paper ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/25 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/3.

6. The formula as presented in informal documents INF.32-INF.9 to assign the packing group for mixtures classified GHS class 1A based on the additivity method received general support. Further work needs to be done to elaborate this formula, especially the

value of the general concentration limit in the denominator of the formula. The expertise of the experts of the TDG Sub-Committee was considered indispensable for this further work. Furthermore, the key decision on the concentration limit should be considered within the remit of the TDG Sub-Committee.

7. Regarding the further work on the concentration limit Spain provided valuable input (INF.65/INF.19). Industry was invited to present examples with specific substances and mixtures to facilitate the work on the general concentration limit as experience of industry in assigning packing groups will be valuable input when determining which concentrations lead to different packaging groups.

8. The proposal to use a default classification in cases where sub-classification is not possible received general support. Further work on this issue needs to be carried out and should be considered within the remit of the TDG Sub-Committee.

9. Amongst the other issues that need to be considered by the experts of the TDG Sub-Committee is the need for a version date in the reference to OECD Test Guidelines in the Model Regulations.

10. It is the desire of the TDG Sub-Committee to conclude the work on corrosivity criteria during this biennium. To achieve this, a formal working paper needs to be submitted to both sub-committees before the August deadline.

11. All delegations of the TDG Sub-Committee are invited to review the proposal for Chapter 2.8 as presented in INF.32 - INF.9 and present their views and (editorial) remarks in writing.

12. The TDG Sub-Committee recognized the need for practical arrangements on the progress of the work on corrosivity criteria during the upcoming months.
