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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 Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
(14-16 July 2004)

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TIMETABLE
FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 14.30 h on Wednesday, 14 July 2004

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with established practice, the first item on the agenda is its adoption on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat.

2. Updating of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)

(a) Physical hazards

- (i) A modification to the classification criteria for self-reactive substances in Chapter 2.8 of the GHS has been proposed by France in order to deal with substances (mixtures) having both oxidizing and self-reactive properties (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/2). This proposal has also been submitted to the twenty-fifth session of the TDG Sub-Committee which precedes the GHS Sub-Committee session (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/48).
- (ii) In Chapter 2.1 of the GHS on explosives, *unstable explosives* are not classified. Proposal ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/5 by CEFIC aims at amending Chapter 2.1 so that unstable explosives would be classified and could be regulated at the workplace.
- (iii) A revised proposal for a *new label for organic peroxides*, Chapter 2.15 of the GHS and Division 5.2 of the TDG Model Regulations, will be presented by Norway (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/3). A similar proposal will have previously been discussed by the TDG Sub-Committee at its twenty-fifth session (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/21, and reproduced as INF 3). Comments by experts of the TDG Sub-Committee (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/66 from the United States of America and

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2004/71 from the Russian Federation) are also reproduced respectively as documents INF 6 and INF 7.

(b) Health hazards

(i) Revision of Chapter 3.1 (Acute Toxicity)

In its programme of work for 2003-2004, the Sub-Committee requested the OECD (i) to revise the classification criteria for acute toxicity to take account of the experimentally obtained acute toxicity range estimates to point estimates for the respective routes of exposure, and (ii) to define the terms “dust”, “mist” and “vapour” in relation to inhalation toxicity. The OECD secretariat will inform the Sub-Committee of the progress made on this issue.

(ii) Toxic gas mixtures (TGM)

At the fifth and sixth sessions of the Sub-Committee, the European Industrial Gas Association (EIGA) submitted comments on the classification of *Toxic Gas Mixtures* (TGM) (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2003/1 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2003/7), questioning the relevance of the additivity formula as contained in 3.1.3.6 of the GHS. A Correspondence Group, set up under the lead of Belgium at the sixth session, has been entrusted to reconsider the TGM classification criteria and to submit its findings at the seventh session of the Sub-Committee (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/7).

(iii) Water activated toxicity (WAT)

According to the Sub-Committee Programme of work, a new hazard class for the GHS, i.e. a *Water-Activated Toxicity Hazard Class* (WAT), has been proposed by the OECD secretariat during the previous Sub-Committee sessions. As the concern was raised that the gas evolution rate would have to be incorporated into the classification criteria, a Correspondence Group was set up to give more thought to this issue and draft modifications to the proposed text. The Correspondence Group, lead by France, will report on the progress of its work and on the outcome of its informal meeting before the Sub-Committee session.

(iv) Revision of Chapter 3.8 (Specific Target Organ Systemic Toxicity/Single Exposure)

The results of the work on *Respiratory Tract Irritation (RTI) and Narcotic Effects*, carried out by the OECD as one of the Sub-Committee programme elements for the current biennium, are described in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/9. Corresponding classification criteria are proposed for inclusion in Chapter 3.8 of the GHS.

(v) Aspiration hazards

This proposal for a new GHS hazard class on Aspiration Hazards is one of the work elements that were underway at the OECD (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/10). It will be submitted to the Sub-Committee for decision.

(vi) Miscellaneous

Elements for the revision of the terminology used in Chapter 3.7 of the GHS on Reproductive Toxicity are proposed by the OECD in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/11. The intention is to clarify the terms “reproductive toxicity, developmental toxicity, reproductive ability and capacity, class and category” which are used in paragraphs 3.7.2.1 and 3.7.2.2.1 of the GHS. It is one of the programme elements for the biennium 2003-2004.

(c) Environmental hazards

(i) Ozone depleting substances (ODS)

The Correspondence Group on Ozone Depleting Substances set up at the last Sub-Committee session may wish to inform the Sub-Committee of the progress made on this issue.

(ii) Terrestrial hazards

A first step in this programme element worked out under the auspices of the OECD was to make an analysis of the current national approaches and/or requirements for terrestrial hazard classification; document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2003/2 was submitted at the fifth session of the Sub-Committee. A second step was to make proposals on issues to be addressed to develop the classification and labelling of this hazard class. The OECD secretariat will report on the progress made on this issue.

(iii) Miscellaneous

3. Development of guidance for implementation

(a) Precautionary statements (PS)

A proposal for revision of Annex III of the GHS on Precautionary Statements giving more precise guidance has been transmitted by the ad hoc Correspondence Group lead by Germany (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/8). The Correspondence Group will also report on the recent developments in its work and in particular on the outcome of its meeting held on the eve of the Sub-Committee seventh session.

(b) Safety data sheets (SDS)

A proposal for a new annex to the GHS giving guidance on the preparation of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) is proposed as a finalization of the work of the Correspondence Group on SDS set up at the beginning of the biennium and lead by Australia (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/1).

(c) Labelling

A proposal for the labelling of very small packages is submitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) as document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/4.

The Correspondence Group on Labelling may revise its formal proposal on labelling guidance on the basis of comments made at the previous Sub-Committee session, including the label example provided by industry.

4. Implementation of the GHS

(a) Reports from governments or organizations

Experts, observers and international organizations concerned may wish to provide new or updated information to the Sub-Committee about progress in the GHS implementation and their role in promoting it.

(b) Cooperation with other international organizations

At the third Open-Ended Working Group of the Basel Convention (April 2004), the Sub-Committee written comments on the revision of definitions and criteria for waste hazard characteristics transmitted to the Basel Convention Executive Secretary, were presented. The document also contained an offer for further cooperation between the Sub-Committee and

the OEWG. The secretariat of the Basel Convention may wish to inform the Sub-Committee of the result of this action.

(c) Miscellaneous

5. Capacity building

Experts, observers and international organizations concerned, such as UNITAR, ILO, OECD and WHO may wish to inform the Sub-Committee of any capacity-building activities or projects undertaken in relation to the GHS.

6. Coordination and work programme

The Chair of the Sub-Committee who leads the Correspondence Group on the Sub-Committee's Process will inform the experts of the progress achieved regarding the clarification of the working procedure with the focal points (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/6).

The OECD secretariat may wish to inform the Sub-Committee of the progress made on the Sub-Committee's other programme elements which continue to be carried out by the OECD Task Force on Harmonization of Classification and Labelling (HCL), in particular on aquatic chronic toxicity; on sensitization/elicitation; on carcinogenicity, including the guidance for the use of additional factors in carcinogenicity classification; reproductive toxicity/potency; and other ongoing work. The OECD secretariat may also wish to inform the Sub-Committee of the outcomes of the TF HCL meeting recently held in Paris (3-5 May 2004).

The Chair of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods will inform the Sub-Committee of the ongoing work of his Sub-Committee regarding the harmonization of criteria for classification and labelling of chemicals as applied in the transport sector with those of the GHS.

7. Other business

At the time of writing, there is no other issue under this agenda item.

8. Adoption of the report

In accordance with established practice, the Sub-Committee may wish to adopt the report on its seventh session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (seventh session)
Provisional timetable

Sous-Comité d'experts du Système général harmonisé de classification et d'étiquetage des produits chimiques (septième session)
Calendrier provisoire

Wednesday 14 July 2004 <i>Mercredi 14 juillet 2004</i>		Thursday 15 July 2004 <i>Jedi 15 juillet 2004</i>		Friday 16 July 2004 <i>Vendredi 16 juillet 2004</i>	
Agenda item <i>Point de l'ordre du jour</i>		Agenda item <i>Point de l'ordre du jour</i>		Agenda item <i>Point de l'ordre du jour</i>	
a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
	14:30-17:30 Room XII	09:30-12:30 Room XII	14:30-17:30 Room XII	09:30-12:30 Room XII	14:30-17:30 Room XII
	Items 1 and 2	Items 2 (cont'd), 3	Items 3 (cont'd), 4	Items 5, 6, 7	...(cont'd) and report adoption
	Points 1 et 2	Points 2 (suite), 3	Points 3 (suite), 4	Points 5, 6, 7	...(suite) et adoption du rapport

NOTE :

- The Correspondence Group on Water Activated Toxicity will meet on Wednesday 14 July, 8 :30-10 :30 under the initiative of France, lead country;
 - The Correspondence Group on Precautionary Statements will meet on Wednesday 14 July, 10 :45- 13 :00 under the initiative of Germany, lead country .
- These informal meetings will be held at the Palais des Nations where a meeting room will be made available to this aim (for more information, please check the website at a later stage or contact the secretariat); (without interpretation).

NOTA :

- Le groupe de correspondance sur les Matières qui sous l'effet de l'eau émettent des substances toxiques se réunira le mercredi 14 juillet de 8 :30 à 10 :30 à l'initiative de la France, pays chef de file;
 - Le groupe de correspondance sur les Conseils de prudence se réunira le mercredi 14 juillet de 10 :45 à 13 :00 à l'initiative de l'Allemagne, pays chef de file .
- Ces réunions informelles se dérouleront au Palais des Nations où une salle aura été mise à disposition à cet effet (pour plus d'information, merci de consulter le site web à une date ultérieure ou de contacter le secrétariat); (sans service d'interprétation).