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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-fourth session
Geneva, 1-9 December 2008
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

**ISSUES RELATING TO THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF
CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)**

**Implementation corrosivity criteria of GHS into Class 8 of the UN Recommendations
on the Transport of Dangerous goods**

Transmitted by the expert from the Netherlands¹

1. The World Summit on Sustainable Development in their meeting in Johannesburg on 4 September 2002 encouraged countries to implement the GHS criteria as soon as possible, with the view to having the system fully implemented by 2008. Subsequently, in its resolution 2003/64 of 25 July 2003, the United Nation Economic and Social Council invited Governments and organisations to implement the GHS criteria (See also par.9 of the foreword of GHS, second revised edition).

2. As a consequence the Sub-Committee of experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods is committed to implement the GHS criteria into the UN Model Regulations.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2007-2008 approved by the Committee at its third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60 para. 100 and ST/SG/AC.10/34, para. 14).

3. On the basis of discussions in December 2007 on document ST/SG/AC.10C.3/2007/50 of the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA) concerning the inclusion of in-vitro testing for corrosiveness it was stated that Class 8 of the UN Recommendations does not include the GHS criteria in their entirety. The Netherlands checked the criteria and the classification procedures of Class 8 of the Model Regulations thoroughly in view of the GHS criteria and submitted document ST/SG/AC.10C.3/2008/48 together with informal document UN/SCETDG/33/INF.17 which were discussed in July 2008. See par. 136-139 of the report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/66.

4. Since several delegations said that there was not enough time to consider INF.17 in detail they were invited to provide comments to the experts of the Netherlands in order to prepare a new proposal (see par. 138 of the report). Only written comments by industry (AISE) were provided but no concrete text proposals were made and therefore the proposals concerning Class 8 of the Netherlands ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/48 together with UN/SCETDG/33/INF.17 should remain on the agenda.

5. Especially for the classification of mixtures and solutions the expert from the Netherlands feel it is important for transport to decide on including clear criteria for corrosivity in line with GHS as soon as possible in order to keep up with the implementation of GHS in other sectors and regions (if we are not able to decide in December and wait for another biennium the transport regulations for mixtures and solutions for corrosivity will remain not up to date with GHS at least until 1 January 2013).

6. In which way the criteria should be put into the transport regulations is less relevant. Although the expert from the Netherlands indicated to prefer to copy relevant GHS text into the transport regulations (see UN/SCETDG/33/INF.17) he could also accept to make a reference to the relevant GHS text as suggested by the secretariat (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/66. para. 139).

7. Depending on the decision in which way the criteria should be implemented by the Sub-Committee further work on part 2 Classification might be needed in the future. It is suggested to consider this as future work for the next biennium.

The Sub-Committee is invited to:

- (a) Decide on aligning the classification criteria for mixtures and solutions for corrosivity with GHS
 - (b) Decide on the way to do this: full text or a reference
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