

**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals**

20 June 2014

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods**

Forty-fifth session

Geneva, 23 June – 02 July 20124

Item 11 (e) of the provisional agenda

**Issues relating to the Globally Harmonized System
of Classification and Labelling: Classification
criteria and flammability categories for certain
refrigerants**

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**

Twenty-seventh session

Geneva, 02 – 04 July 2014

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Classification criteria and related hazard
communication: Work of the Sub-Committee of
Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG)**

**Program of work 2015-2016: evaluation of classification
criteria and flammability categories for certain refrigerants**

Transmitted by the expert from Japan

Introduction

1. At its twenty-fourth session, the GHS Sub-Committee having considered the proposal “Inclusion in the program of work 2013-2014: evaluation of classification criteria and flammability categories for certain refrigerants” transmitted by the expert from Belgium (INF.13 GHS 24th session), agreed to include this issue in its programme of work and entrusted the TDG Sub-Committee as the focal point for physical hazards with the task. The TDG Sub-Committee, at its forty-second session, also considered the same proposal (INF.26 TDG 42nd session) and agreed to include this issue in its programme of work.

2. The expert from Japan is aware that certain work has been done in support of this agenda item but that the work is not complete. During the biennium 2013-2014 relevant work has been initiated and data obtained. Also, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has completed its review of a categorization of lower flammability and has recently approved ISO 817 in March 2014, creating a new category for lower flammability gases. However, there is a further need to gather a substantial amount of data and analysis to evaluate this item. Gathering data sufficient to support the proposal is still underway.

3. This issue remains of high importance and it is intended to submit a proposal for modification of Chapter 2.2 of “The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)” during the 2015-2016 biennium.

Proposal

4. It is proposed to retain this agenda item in the programme of work for the next biennium 2015-2016 for both the TDG and GHS sub-committees.