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

12 June 2023

Forty-fourth session
Geneva, 10-12 July 2023
Item 2 (i) of the provisional agenda
Work on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and
Labelling of Chemicals: Improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and
further rationalization of precautionary statements

Status of the work of the annexes 1 to 3 informal working group

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom on behalf of the informal working group

Introduction

1. This informal paper provides an update on the work undertaken by the informal working group on the revision of Annexes 1 to 3 since the forty-third session of the Sub-Committee in December 2022.

Background

- 2. At the forty-third session, the Sub-Committee agreed the working group's programme of work for the 2023-2024 biennium and updates on the progress of the groups work are provided to the Sub-Committee at each session during the biennium.
- 3. The informal working group presently has approximately 80 members, reflecting the importance of, and interest in, this work to improve Annexes 1 to 3. Its membership includes experts with specialised knowledge of the various hazard classes within the GHS and experts on national legislation that implements GHS.

Status report

- 4. Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, the working group has actively taken forward, via correspondence and at four virtual meetings (27 January, 24 March, 4 May and 6 June 2023), the outstanding issues in relation to acute toxicity hazard class precautionary statements in Annex 3.
- 5. As part of this work, the group has submitted an informal document to this session (see INF.6) regarding potential precautionary statement issues for the acute toxicity hazard classes, Category 5, to try to ascertain the wider views from the Sub-Committee, particularly from those delegations that implement this hazard category.
- 6. The informal working group is also currently progressing another issue in Annex 3 from their work plan in relation to the combination statement "P302 + P361 + P354", and will continue its work via correspondence and virtual meetings to resolve outstanding issues for both of these work items.

Action requested from the Sub-Committee

7. The Sub-Committee is invited to note the progress of the Annexes 1-3 working group.

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