

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

7 July 2023

Forty-fourth session

Geneva, 10-12 July 2023

Items 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (k) of the provisional agenda

Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG) on matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee

Note by the secretariat

1. At its sixty-second session, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) considered matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee under items 2 and 10 of its agenda¹ (“explosives and related matters” and “Issues relating to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals” respectively).
2. Questions under the agenda item “Explosives and related matters” were referred to the Explosives Working Group, which met from 3 to 6 July 2023. The report of the Working Group on Explosives has been circulated to the TDG Sub-Committee as informal document INF.47.²
3. The TDG Sub-Committee reached the conclusions listed below for each matter of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee under consideration under agenda items 2 and 10 of its agenda.

Outcome of the discussions at the TDG Sub-Committee

GHS agenda item 2 (a)

1. Amendment to section 51.4.4.2 (e) of the Manual of Tests and Criteria

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2023/1 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/6 (China)

Informal document: TDG/INF.47, para. 9 (report of the Explosives Working Group)

70. Following the recommendation by the EWG, the Sub-Committee adopted the amendment in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/6 as modified and agreed to keep it in square brackets (see annex...).

71. Further improvements and inconsistencies were identified by the EWG during their review and it agreed that a burn rate informal correspondence group will work on them. The findings and suggestions will be considered through subsequent working or informal documents. China will coordinate the burn rate informal correspondence group.

¹ ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/123/Add.1 (<https://unece.org/transport/documents/2023/04/agendas/provisional-agenda-sixty-second-session-addendum>)

² <https://unece.org/transport/documents/2023/07/informal-documents/report-working-group-explosives-chair-working-group>

(Ref.doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 paras 70 and 71: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session)

Amendment to the Manual of Tests and Criteria

[51.4.4.2 Amend (e) to read as follows:

“(e) I_{relevant} is obtained from the maximum of the smoothed and corrected curve of the measured heat radiation. $I_{\text{calculated}}$ is the average value of the radiation obtained by converting the integrated area in a rectangle of equal area during the same total burning time (see figure 51.4.1).”]

(Ref.doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.2 and TDG/INF.47, amendment 1)

2. Amendment of the definition “explosive or pyrotechnic effect”

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2023/2 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/12 (Sweden)

Informal document: TDG/INF.47, para. 10 (report of the Explosives Working Group)

72. During the EWG meeting, many experts supported this proposal, and some others opposed it. However, those who opposed were willing to continue the discussion at the next meeting. The EWG recommended accepting proposal 1A in square brackets and continuing the work to review the locations where the term “explosive or pyrotechnic effect” is used to determine if it is appropriate in those instances.

73. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendment in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/12 and to keep it in square bracket (see annex...).

(Ref.doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 paras 72 and 73 of the draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session)

Amendment to the definition in chapter 2.1 of the Model Regulations

[2.1.1.1 In (b), after “except”, add “those that are too dangerous to transport or”.]

(Ref. doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.2 and INF.47, amendment 4)

[2.1.1.3 In (e), delete “, in the context of 2.1.1.1 (c),”.]

(Ref. doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.2 and TDG/INF.47, amendment 2)

3. Amendments to chapter 2.17 (desensitized explosives) of the Globally Harmonized System and section 51 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2023/3 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/17 (AEISG)

Informal documents: INF.15 and TDG/INF.47, para. 11 (report of the Explosives Working Group)

74. The EWG did not reach a consensus for a recommendation for the proposal in paragraph 13 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/17. AEISG offered to take the comments from the EWG and revise its proposal for the next session. The EWG recommended that the proposals in paragraphs 14 and 15 be accepted.

75. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendments proposed in paragraphs 14 and 15 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/17 (see annex...).

(Ref.doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 paras. 74 and 75 of the draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session)

Amendment to Chapter 2.17, note to 2.17.2.3

Delete the note “**NOTE:** Nitrocellulose mixtures containing no explosives other than nitrocellulose, do not need to meet the criterion of 2.17.2.2 (b)(ii).”

(Ref. doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.2 and TDG/INF.47, amendment 3A)

Amendment to paragraph 51.4.1.2 (b) of the Manual of Tests and Criteria

51.4.1.2 In (b), delete “Division 1.1”.

(Ref. doc.: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.2 and TDG/INF.47, amendment 3B)

4. Aerosols: Alignment of special provision 63 with special provision 362

Informal document: INF.5 (FEA)

97. In the absence of a representative of FEA, the Sub-Committee did not consider the document.

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 para. 97 of the draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session)

GHS agenda item 2 (b)

5. Informal working group on combinations of physical hazards: Status report

Informal document: INF.14 - TDG/INF.26 (Germany)

98. The Sub-Committee noted the status report of the informal working group on combinations of physical hazards.

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 para. 98 of the draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session)

GHS agenda item 2 (k)

6. Proposal to add hazard communication requirements for substances or mixtures emitting volatile and flammable vapours in annex 4 of the GHS (Guidance on the preparation of Safety Data Sheets (SDS))”

Informal document: INF.16 - TDG/INF.34 (China)

99. The Sub-Committee agreed with the intent of this document in principle. The expert from China invited all delegates to send him their written comments and announced that following the outcome of the discussions at the 44th session of the GHS, China may consider submitting a revised proposal as an official document to the next session.

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/R.1/Add.7 para. 99 of the draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its sixty-second session, as amended during the report reading on 7 July 2023)