



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

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Item 2 (j) of the provisional agenda

Work on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals: Other matters

French translation of the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2 and 3

Transmitted by the expert from Canada*

Background

1. In the process of developing Canada's regulatory proposal to potentially adopt the physical hazard class "chemicals under pressure" (introduced in the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) eighth revised edition), Canada found what may be a translation inconsistency. This inconsistency concerns the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure (categories 1, 2 and 3) in the English and French versions of the GHS in the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions.

2. We note the present English hazard statements for chemicals under pressure (categories 1, 2 and 3) were introduced in the 8th revised edition of the GHS. There were no changes to the English or French hazard statements for chemicals under pressure (categories 1, 2 or 3) in the 9th or 10th revised edition of the GHS.

3. In the English version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 1 in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

"Extremely flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated" (GHS hazard statement code H282)

4. In the French version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 1 in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

* A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6



« Extrêmement inflammables

Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

5. We believe the French version of the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 1, in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS is not an accurate translation of the English version of the hazard statement. We feel this inconsistency leads to a difference in the technical meaning conveyed by the French version of the hazard statement.

6. We note that in the French version of the GHS 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions, in table A1.3 of annex 1, table A3.1.1 of Annex 3, and in section 3 of annex 3, the French translation of hazard statement H282 reads as follows:

« Produit chimique sous pression extrêmement inflammable : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

We consider this to be an accurate translation of the English version of hazard statement H282:

“Extremely flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated”

7. We therefore propose that the French translation of the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 1, in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th and 10th revised editions of the GHS “Extrêmement inflammables Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur” be modified to the following, to be consistent with the wording of H282 in table A1.3 of annex 1, table A3.1.1 of annex 3, and section 3 of annex 3, and with the English version of the hazard statement (new text shown in **bold and underlined**):

« **Produit chimique sous pression extrêmement inflammable** : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

8. In the English version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure category 2 in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

“Flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated” (GHS hazard statement code H283)

9. In the French version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 2 in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

« Inflammables

Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

10. We believe the French version of the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 2, in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, 10th revised editions of the GHS is not an accurate translation of the English version of the hazard statement. We feel this inconsistency leads to a difference in the technical meaning conveyed by the French version of the hazard statement.

11. We note that in the French version of the GHS 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions, in table A1.3 of annex 1, table A3.1.1 of annex 3, and in section 3 of annex 3, the French translation of hazard statement H283 reads as follows:

« Produit chimique sous pression inflammable : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

We consider this to be an accurate translation of the English version of hazard statement H283:

“Flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated”

12. We therefore propose that the French translation of the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 2, in chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS “Inflammables Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur” be modified to the following, to be consistent with the wording of H283 in table

A1.3 of annex 1, table A3.1.1 of annex 3, and section 3 of annex 3, and with the English version of the hazard statement (new text shown in bold and underlined):

« **Produit chimique sous pression inflammable** : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

13. In the English version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 3, in section 3 of annex 3 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

“Chemical under pressure: May explode if heated” (GHS hazard statement code H284)

14. In the French version of the GHS, the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 3, in section 3 of annex 3 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS reads as follows:

« Produit chimique sous pression inflammable : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

15. We believe the French version of the hazard statement for chemicals under pressure, category 3, in section 3 of annex 3 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS is not an accurate translation of the English version of the hazard statement. We feel this inconsistency leads to a difference in the technical meaning conveyed by the French version of the hazard statement.

16. We note that in the French version of the GHS 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions, in table 2.3.4 of chapter 2.3, and table A1.3 of annex 1, and table A3.1.1 of annex 3 the French translation of hazard statement H284 reads as follows:

« Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

We consider this to be an accurate translation of the English version of hazard statement H284:

“Chemical under pressure: May explode if heated”

17. We therefore propose that the French translation of the hazard statement H284 for chemicals under pressure, category 3, in section 3 of annex 3 of the 8th, 9th, and 10th revised editions of the GHS “Produit chimique sous pression inflammable : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur” be modified to the following, to be consistent with the wording of H284 in table 2.3.4 of chapter 2.3, table A1.3 of annex 1, table A3.1.1 of annex 3, and with the English version of the hazard statement (new text shown in bold and underlined):

« **Produit chimique sous pression** : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur »

18. A table comparing the English and French versions of the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2 and 3 and the proposed modified text for the French hazard statements can be found in the annex to this document.

Action

19. We invite the Sub-Committee to consider:

- (a) whether others share Canada's concern that the French versions of the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2, and 3 convey a different technical meaning than the English versions as outlined in this document;
- (b) whether there is support to modify the French versions of the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2 and 3 in the GHS as outlined in this document; and
- (c) whether there is support for the proposed modified text provided in this document (see paragraphs 7, 12, and 17 or the Annex) to replace the current French versions of the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2 and 3, or whether there are any comments or suggestions with respect to the proposed modified text.

Annex

Comparison of the English, French and proposed modified text for the hazard statements for chemicals under pressure, categories 1, 2 and 3

| English hazard statement (GHS 8 th , 9 th , and 10 th revised editions) | French hazard statement (GHS 8 th , 9 th , and 10 th revised editions) | Modified text for consideration (new text shown in bold and underlined) |
|--|---|--|
| Chemicals under pressure, category 1 (chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4): Extremely flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 1 (chapitre 2.3, tableau 2.3.4) : Extrêmement inflammables Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 1 (chapitre 2.3, tableau 2.3.4) : <u>Produit chimique sous pression extrêmement inflammable</u> : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur |
| Chemicals under pressure, category 2 (chapter 2.3, table 2.3.4): Flammable chemical under pressure: May explode if heated | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 2 (chapitre 2.3, tableau 2.3.4) : Inflammables Produit chimique sous pression : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 2 (chapitre 2.3, tableau 2.3.4) : <u>Produit chimique sous pression inflammable</u> : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur |
| Chemicals under pressure, category 3 (H284 of section 3 of annex 3): Chemical under pressure: May explode if heated | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 3 (H284 de la section 3 de l'annexe 3) : Produit chimique sous pression inflammable : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur | Produits chimiques sous pression, catégorie 3 (H284 de la section 3 de l'annexe 3) : <u>Produit chimique sous pression</u> : peut exploser sous l'effet de la chaleur |