

## 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

9 November 2023

### Forty-fifth session

Geneva, 6-8 December 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 improvement of 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-fourth session of the Sub-Committee in July 2023.

### 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 70 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 two virtual meetings (25 July and 5 September 2023), the outstanding issues in relation to acute toxicity hazard class precautionary statements in annex 3.

5. The outcome includes the following working and informal documents submitted by the United Kingdom on behalf of the working group for consideration by the Sub-Committee at its forty-fifth session in December 2023:

- **ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2023/9** and informal document **INF.3** - "Proposed amendments to precautionary statements in annex 3 due to the acute toxicity and specific target organ toxicity hazard classes"

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 shortly commence a "Review of the use of slashes, dots and brackets within precautionary statements". The group will continue its work primarily via correspondence and virtual

meetings to resolve outstanding issues for both of these work items and has an informal working group meeting planned during the December 2023 session.

### **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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