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**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****Twenty-fourth session**

Geneva, 12 – 14 December 2012

Item 2 (e) of the provisional agenda

**Updating of the Globally Harmonized System of  
Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS):  
Miscellaneous proposals****Corrections to Chapter 4.1 and Annex 9****Transmitted by the experts from Sweden and the United States of  
America<sup>1</sup>****Introduction**

1. When the criteria for aquatic hazard were updated to include classification based on chronic toxicity, the terminology for sub-classes and categories was amended in Chapter 4.1. It seems, however, that there is some inconsistency in the terminology used in Chapter 4.1 and in the annexes.

2. Therefore, it is proposed to align the terminology used in Chapter 4.1 and Annex 9 in accordance with the following terms:

Hazard class: **“Hazardous to the aquatic environment”**;

Sub-classes: **“Short-term (acute) hazard”** and **“Long-term (chronic) hazard”**;

Categories: **Acute 1, Acute 2, Acute 3, Chronic 1, Chronic 2, Chronic 3 and Chronic 4.**

3. Although there are a couple of consequential amendments in Annex 1 and 2, those changes are not included in this document. This since a proposal for improvement of the presentation of Annexes 1 and 2, including amendments in accordance with the proposal in

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the report of the Sub-Committee of Experts on its twenty-third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/46, par.30).

this document has been submitted separately for consideration by the Sub-Committee (see document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2012/22).

## Proposal

4. Amend Chapter 4.1 and Annex 9 as follows:

### Amendments to Chapter 4.1:

- Replace “acute (short-term)” with “short-term (acute)” 3 times (section 4.1.1.1, Table 4.1.1 and Decision Logics in 4.1.5.1);
- Replace “acute hazard” with “short-term (acute) hazard” 6 times (section 4.1.2.5, Table 4.1.2, 4.1.3.3.3, 4.1.3.5.2(a), 4.1.3.5.5.3.4, and Table 4.1.3);
- Replace “acute” with “short-term (acute)” once (Figure 4.1.2 Title);
- Replace “acute/long-term” with “short-term (acute)/long-term (chronic)” 4 times (all in Figure 4.1.2).
- Replace “acute classification” with “short-term (acute) classification” 4 times (section 4.1.2.1 (twice), decision logics in 4.1.5.1.1(note 3), 4.1.5.2.4)
- Replace “Long-term hazard” with “Long-term (chronic) hazard” 20 times (section 4.1.1.1, 4.1.2.1, 4.1.2.2, Figure 4.1.1, 4.1.2.5, 4.1.2.7 (twice), and Table 4.1.2 (twice including Note 5), 4.1.3.3.2, 4.1.3.3.4(b), 4.1.3.5.2(b), 4.1.3.5.5.4.5, Table 4.1.4, Decision Logics in 4.1.5.2.2, in 4.1.5.2.3 and in 4.1.5.2.4 (three times)).
- Replace “Long-term aquatic” with “Long-term (chronic) aquatic” 3 times (Table 4.1.1(b), Figure 4.1.2 (Title) and in decision logics in 4.1.5.2).
- Replace “chronic classification” with “long-term (chronic) classification” 3 times (section 4.1.2.1 (three times)).
- Replace “chronic categories” with “long-term (chronic) categories” One time (Table 4.1.2 (note 2));
- In table 4.1.6:
  - For “ACUTE” and “CHRONIC” read “SHORT-TERM (ACUTE) AQUATIC HAZARD” and “LONG-TERM (CHRONIC) AQUATIC HAZARD” respectively;
  - Replace “Category” with “Category Acute” (3 times) and with “Category Chronic” (4 times)

For clarification purposes, the corrections to the table are shown, in track changes mode, below:

Table 4.1.6: Label elements for hazardous to the aquatic environment

**ACUTE SHORT-TERM (ACUTE) AQUATIC HAZARD**

	<del>Category 1</del> <b>Category Acute 1</b>	<del>Category 2</del> <b>Category Acute 2</b>	<del>Category 3</del> <b>Category Acute 3</b>
<b>Symbol</b>	Environment	<i>No symbol</i>	<i>No symbol</i>
<b>Signal word</b>	Warning	<i>No signal word</i>	<i>No signal word</i>
<b>Hazard statement</b>	Very toxic to aquatic life	Toxic to aquatic life	Harmful to aquatic life

**CHRONIC LONG-TERM (CHRONIC) AQUATIC HAZARD**

	<del>Category 1</del> <b>Category Chronic 1</b>	<del>Category 2</del> <b>Category Chronic 2</b>	<del>Category 3</del> <b>Category Chronic 3</b>	<del>Category 4</del> <b>Category Chronic 4</b>
<b>Symbol</b>	Environment	Environment	<i>No symbol</i>	<i>No symbol</i>
<b>Signal word</b>	Warning	<i>No signal word</i>	<i>No signal word</i>	<i>No signal word</i>
<b>Hazard statement</b>	Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects	Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects	Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects	May cause long lasting harmful effects to aquatic life

Decision logics: Wherever it appears in decision logics 4.1.1, and 4.1.3 (a) to (c), for “Acute Category” and “Chronic Category” read “Acute” and “Chronic”, respectively. (*Applies 9 times to decision logic 4.1.1; once to decision logic 4.1.3(a); 3 times to decision logic 4.1.3 (b) and 3 times to decision logic 4.1.3 (c)*)

**Amendments to Annex 9:**

- Replace “acute hazard” with “short-term (acute) hazard” 5 times (section A9.2.1 (twice), A9.2.3.1 (twice), and A9.2.4.4).
- Replace “long-term hazard” with “long-term (chronic) hazard” 10 times (section A9.2.1, A9.2.3.1, A9.2.3.2 (three times), A9.2.4.4 (twice), A9.2.6.3, A9.3.3.2.3(a), and A9.7.2.2.4).
- Replace “chronic hazard” with “long-term (chronic) hazard” 2 times (section A9.2.3.1, and A9.2.3.2)
- In A9.2.3.1, third sentence, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic” (twice)
- In A9.2.3.6, second sentence, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
- In A9.2.4.5, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic” (twice)
- In A9.3.3.1.2:
  - second sentence, for “are classified in Chronic and/or Acute Category 1” read “are classified in Chronic 1 and/or Acute 1”
  - third sentence, for “are classified in Category 2 for acute toxicity” read “are classified in category Acute 2” and for “in Category 3 for acute toxicity” read “are classified in category Acute 3”

- A9.3.5.7.2:
    - In (a), second sentence, for “it is likely that Chronic Category 1 and/or Acute Category 1” read “it is likely that Chronic 1 and/or Acute 1”
    - In (b), second sentence, for “whether the Chronic Category 4 should apply” read “whether Chronic 4 should apply”
  - A9.4.2.4.8, in footnote 2, first sentence, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.2.3, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.2.4.1 (a), (b) and (c), for “Acute Category” read “Acute” and for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.2.4.2, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic” (twice)
  - A9.7.5.3.2.2 (a), (b) and (c), for “Acute Category” read “Acute” and for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.3.3, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.3.3.1, for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.3.3.2 (a), (b) and (c), for “Acute Category” read “Acute” and for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic”
  - A9.7.5.3.3.3 for “Chronic Category” read “Chronic” (twice)
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