

UN/SCEGHS/8/INF.7

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

Eighth session, 7-9 December 2004
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

COORDINATION AND WORK PROGRAMME

Programme of work for the biennium 2005-2006

Note by the secretariat

The purpose of this document is to provide a draft programme of work 2005-2006 for consideration by the Sub-Committee at its eighth session. This draft programme is based on the issues that have not been completed during the current biennium and need further work, as well as new elements that have emerged in the course of the current biennium.

Once adopted by the Sub-Committee, the programme of work will be submitted to the Committee for approval at its second session.

Draft Programme of Work for the 2005-2006 biennium

I. Updating of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals:

(a) Work on Health Hazards

- (i) Pursue work on classification criteria for substances which, in contact with water, release toxic/corrosive gases;
- (ii) Refine classification criteria for Toxic Gas Mixtures (TGM) (in cooperation with OECD);
- (iii) Complete work on validation of the transformation/dissolution protocol for metals (in cooperation with OECD);
- (iv) Examine the issue of sensitization/induction/elicitation and propose amendments to the criteria as appropriate (in cooperation with OECD);
- (v) Continue to examine the available information concerning strong versus weak sensitizers and, if appropriate, propose revisions to the classification criteria for respiratory and/or dermal sensitization (in cooperation with OECD);
- (vi) Pursue work on carcinogenicity potency estimation (in cooperation with OECD);
- (vii) Pursue work on developing guidance on the importance of different factors concerning criteria for carcinogenicity (in cooperation with OECD);
- (viii) Pursue work on amending the classification criteria for toxic to reproduction to consider cut-off dose levels related to relative potency of a chemical (in cooperation with OECD);

(b) Work on Environmental Hazards

- (i) Pursue work to further improve the classification scheme on chronic aquatic toxicity hazards (in cooperation with OECD);
- (ii) Continue to develop criteria for the classification and labelling of environmental terrestrial hazard (in cooperation with OECD);
- (iii) Develop a classification scheme for Ozone Depleting Substances in cooperation with the Conference of Parties to the Montreal Convention;

II. GHS implementation

- (a) Cooperate with intergovernmental bodies responsible for the administration of international agreements and conventions dealing with chemicals management issues, in order to work out ways to give effect to the GHS through such instruments;
 - (b) Review reports on the implementation of the GHS in member States;
 - (c) Review reports on training and capacity-building activities;
 - (d) Provide assistance to United Nations programmes and specialized agencies involved in training and capacity-building activities, such as UNITAR, ILO, through the development of guidance materials, advice with respect to their training programmes and identification of available expertise and resources.
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