

## 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

Ninth session, 11-13 July 2005  
Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GHS

Transmitted by the expert from Canada

#### Implementation Update

In August 2003, Canada released its Situational Analysis which compares the systems in Canada with existing hazard communication requirements to the GHS.

In October 2003, Canada held a workshop to launch GHS implementation. The purpose was to build a common understanding of GHS and to identify issues and options associated with the implementation of GHS in Canada.

Since 2004, Canada has been conducting technical consultations. The consultation process revolves around multi-stakeholder Sectoral Working Groups based on delineation of regulatory authority (pest control products, workplace chemical, consumer products and transport of dangerous goods). A multi-stakeholder cross sector committee serves to identify and address issues common to the Sectors and address issues which may arise as a result of potential changes to the current system. The objective is harmonization to the greatest extent possible between the sectors in Canada and harmonization to the greatest extent possible between trading partners. In addition, expert working groups are addressing specific issues of environmental and chronic hazard labelling. The goal is to have recommendations for decision by late 2005.

Canada is working toward full implementation of the GHS by 2008.

Progress will be posted on the Health Canada web site.  
[www.healthcanada.ca/ghs](http://www.healthcanada.ca/ghs)  
[www.santecanada.ca/sgl](http://www.santecanada.ca/sgl)  
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