

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
Transport of Dangerous Goods

Thirty-sixth session
Geneva, 30 November to 9 December 2009
Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Issues relating to the GHS

Australian comments on document ST/SG/AC/.10/C.3/2009/50 from the United Kingdom

Background

1. Australian authorities support in principle the comments provided in paper 50 by the United Kingdom and agree with the conclusion reached in the paper that alignment of the Model Regulations with the GHS corrosivity criteria be deferred until after the GHS committee has carried out its editorial review of the corrosivity provisions, this biennium.
2. We believe that implementation of the full corrosivity criteria in the Model Regulations could lead to some unintended consequences in the area of classifications, as expressed in paper 50.
3. We also support the basis of the current criteria in the model regulations, in that classification criteria are based on immediate physical hazards, while the GHS requirements consider a wider range of situations that relate to long term exposure that could occur in storage situations, or in workplaces, but are not necessarily a relevant factor in transport.

Proposal:

4. The conclusions reached in paper 50 are supported by Australian Authorities.
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