

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**

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Capacity building

Recent international GHS capacity building and training activities

Transmitted by the expert from Sweden

1. This document provides a short update regarding recent international GHS capacity building and training activities involving the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI), mainly supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).
2. A workshop on GHS implementation in South Africa was organised in Pretoria 30-31 August. The participants represented inter alia Department of Labour, Department of Environmental Affairs, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Department of Health. The South African GHS-implementing act is due for public consultation early 2017.
3. A workshop on GHS implementation in East Africa was organised by Africa Institute, in cooperation with KemI and Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA), in Lusaka, Zambia, 10-12 October. The workshop was hosted by ZEMA and involved participants from Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Malawi, Nigeria, Swaziland, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia as well SADC. A road map for regional implementation of GHS was drafted and will be reviewed during 2017.
4. Two trainings addressing chemicals management issues were held in Cambodia (2-4 November) and Lao PDR (7-9 October), respectively. The participants represented relevant governmental ministries and agencies as well as other concerned stakeholders, including NGOs and the business community. The second day of the training focused on hazard assessment and hazard communication and emphasised GHS adoption and implementation as key elements for sound chemicals management.
5. During 2016, KemI hosted the first three-week part of two International Training Programmes (ITP) "Strategies for chemicals management" in Sweden as well as two five-days regional ITP project follow-up seminars, in Bangkok, Thailand and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, respectively. Since 2007, a total of 395 persons from 45 countries in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe have participated in the training. Hazard assessment, hazard communication and implementation of GHS are highlighted in the programme. Several of the individual projects within the programme relates to GHS implementation and awareness raising issues. The ITP is supported by SIDA and is coming to an end in 2017. KemI has applied for support for a further set of ITPs for the period 2017-2021.
6. Through an agreement between the Swedish Ministry of Environment and Energy and the Brazilian Ministry of Environment, KemI has been able to invite participants from Brazil to the ITP. As a result, Brazil is currently drafting a similar training programme for

the country and the Latin America/Caribbean region. An application for programme support will be submitted to UNEP Special Programme.

7. The GHS global implementation study conducted by the Swedish Environmental Institute is being finalised and will be published early next year. It is anticipated to be presented to the sub-committee at the 33rd session.

8. In addition, KemI experts have visited Bosnia Herzegovina to assist in preparing a framework chemicals legislation and detailed rulebooks implementing GHS in the country in an EU-harmonised way.

9. KemI has also lend advice to the Federal Ministry of Environment in Brazil on making GHS mandatory for all chemical substances and mixtures placed on the market.
