

INFORMATION PAPER

(Transmitted by the Chairman)

SUMMARY REPORT ON THE 6th MEETING OF THE ILO WORKING GROUP FOR THE HARMONIZATION OF CHEMICAL HAZARD COMMUNICATION

The meeting took place in Rome, Italy, hosted by ANPA, from to 30 October to 2 November 2000.

After the approval of the agenda and of the report of the previous meeting, the Step 2B Document (containing the different options for harmonisation of hazard communication) was discussed.

It was generally agreed:

1. Use of a flame symbol for flammable liquids, solids and gases, self-reactive substances and substances which in contact with water emit flammable gases (but the use of the symbol for flammable liquids, hazard levels 3 and 4, is still open)
2. Use of exploding bomb for explosives (the exemption for Division 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6 is still pending)
3. Use of the flame over circle symbol for oxidising hazards
4. Use of one symbol for corrosion for eye, skin and metal corrosion (eye corrosion is not considered in transport)
5. Use of skull and crossbones for acute toxicity, hazard levels 1 to 3
6. No symbol for acute toxicity hazard level 5
7. The use of a symbol for acute toxicity hazard level 4, for irritation and for sensitisation is still an open question
8. Possible development of a new symbol for chronic toxicity hazards
9. Use of one symbol for aquatic toxicity, acute hazard level 1 and chronic levels 1 and 2 (the use of a symbol for the other hazard levels is still an open question)
10. The use of colours, as in the transport system, in other systems is still an open question.

It has to be noted, with regard to colours, that there was some suggestion in terms of adopting (out of transport) only one colour for background. It was suggested to use the "orange" or "yellow" as background and to ask the transport sector if it would entail some problem if "orange" (which in transport is specific for explosives) or "yellow" (which could be left free if transport will no more use it for oxidiser) will be used.

The next meeting will take place in Geneva at ILO headquarters, May 2001, but a meeting of the small Drafting Group is envisaged for January in Washington DC.

Filename: inf-29.doc
Directory: C:\MyFiles\INTERNET\TRANS\DANGER\MEETINGS\ECOSO
C\2000_12
Template: C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\Templates\Normal.dot
Title: INFORMATION PAPER
Subject:
Author: anpa
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 24/11/00 11.09
Change Number: 2
Last Saved On: 24/11/00 11.09
Last Saved By: UN/ECE
Total Editing Time: 1 Minute
Last Printed On: 24/11/00 17.20
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 1
Number of Words: 315 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 1,796 (approx.)