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

22 November 2018

Thirty-fifth session

Geneva, 5-7 December 2018
Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda
Hazard communication:
improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and further
rationalisation of precautionary statements

Status of the work of the Annex 1-3 informal working group

Transmitted by the expert from United Kingdom on behalf of the informal working group

Introduction

1. This informal paper provides an update on the work undertaken by the informal working group on the revision of Annexes 1-3 since the 35th session of the Sub-Committee.

Background

- 2. The Sub-Committee agreed the group's programme of work for the 2017-2018 biennium (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/64; UN/SCEGHS/32/INF.12/Rev.1).
- 3. At the thirty-fifth session of the Sub-Committee, updates on the progress of the working group were provided in informal document INF.18 (35th session) and in oral feedback from the informal working group meeting held on 4 July 2018. The Sub-Committee adopted the working groups proposals on hazard sub-categories and precautionary pictograms, and noted progress on medical response precautionary statements and on consolidation of P201 and P202.

Status report

- 4. Since the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, the working group has actively taken forward, via correspondence and a webinar (5 September 2018), the outstanding issues in paragraph 3 above and some other items in its work programme. The outcomes includes the following working and informal documents submitted by the UK on behalf of the working group, for consideration by the Sub-Committee at its 36th session in December 2018:
 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/30 and informal document INF.7 (36th session) 'Proposed changes to Annex 3 of the GHS to improve medical response precautionary statements (P310 to P315)';
 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/31 and informal document INF.8 (36th session) 'Proposed changes to P201 and P202'.

- ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/32 and informal document INF.9 (36th session) Proposed changes to Sections 2 to 4 of Annex 3
- Informal document INF.25 (36th session) "Proposed workplan for the informal working group on the improvement of Annexes 1 to 3 of the GHS"
- Informal document INF.26 (36th session) "Status of the work of the Annex 1-3 informal working group" [this paper]
- 5. The informal working group is currently progressing several other issues including: the conditional use of precautionary pictograms conveying the message 'Keep out of reach of children' (P102); and possible ways to improve the precautionary statement P501 on disposal / recycling of waste.
- 6. The working group will meet during the thirty-sixth session of the Sub-Committee to further discuss items on its work plan. The meeting is scheduled from 13:00 to 14:30 on Thursday 6 December 2018, and the Sub-Committee will receive an oral update in the 36th session.

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Draft Agenda for the Revision of Annex 1-3 informal working group meeting

6th December 2018 (13:00-14:30; Room S4)

- 1. Welcome to participants
- 2. Review and adoption of the agenda
- 3. Brief consideration of documents tabled for discussion by the Sub-committee at GHS 36
 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/30 and UN/SCEGHS/36/INF.7 'Proposed changes to Annex 3 of the GHS to improve medical response precautionary statements (P310 to P315)';
 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/31 and UN/SCEGHS/36/INF.8 'Proposed changes to P201 and P202'.
 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/32 (UK) and UN/SCEGHS/35/INF.9 Proposed changes to Sections 2 to 4 of Annex 3
 - Informal document INF.25 (36th session) "Proposed workplan for the informal working group on the improvement of Annexes 1 to 3 of the GHS"
 - Informal document INF.26 (36th session) "Status of the work of the Annex 1-3 informal working group"
- 4. Further consideration for conditions of use for P102 "Keep out of reach of children" precautionary pictogram
 - AISE thought starter paper
- 5. Proposed work plan for next biennium (2019-2020)
 - Discussion and a call for volunteers:
- 6. Any other business