

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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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Hazard communication issues

Labelling of small packagings

**Transmitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) on
behalf of the informal correspondence group**

A. Introduction

1. At the 16th session, the Sub-Committee approved the following programme of work for the biennium 2009-2010:

“Labelling of small packagings (including work on packagings terminology/definitions)

(a) Development of guidance on the application of the general principles for the labelling of small packagings;

(b) Review of the current terminology/definitions of means of containment and study of the needs of the different sectors and the cost-benefit impact of any proposed change.”

2. A status report of the activities of the correspondence group was made available for the 18th session: UN/SCEGHS/18/INF.15.

3. The correspondence group met on December 10th 2009. The purpose of this INF paper is to provide the Sub-Committee with the outcome of that meeting and an update on the activities of the correspondence group since the 18th session.

B. Development of guidance on the labelling of small packagings

4. Some members of the correspondence group considered it premature to develop actual guidance on the application of the general principles for the labelling of small packagings.

5. As a first step, it was suggested to include in the GHS document illustrative examples showing how the principles described in § 1.4.10.5.4.4 may be applied, in a non prescriptive, non exhaustive Annex like Annex 7 giving examples of arrangements of the GHS label elements.

6. The above mentioned examples of labelling of small packagings may reside in a new Annex or in a sub-section of Annex 7 according to the views of the Sub-Committee.

7. In order to prepare this proposed Annex and to submit it to the Sub-Committee at its 20th session, the correspondence group is collecting anonymized examples of labels for small packagings. They welcome all contributions from members of the Sub-Committee.

C. Packaging terminology/definitions

8. The members of the correspondence group noted that, for the purpose of the GHS document, no problems were encountered to date with the terminology and definitions used. They considered then that no change is necessary for the time being. They are prepared to review this position, should difficulties appear.
