

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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Implementation of the GHS - Reports on the status of implementation

Status of implementation of the GHS in Serbia

Transmitted by the expert from Serbia

Introduction

1. Legal basis for implementation of GHS is stipulated in the Law on Chemicals which came into force in May 2009. As a step toward modernisation of national chemicals management and implementation of new legislation, significant number of GHS related activities have been undertaken, such as development and adoption of subsidiary legislation, dissemination of information with regards to GHS, organization and participation in many workshops, training courses, awareness raising seminars etc.

Legislation

2. Subsidiary legislative act which aligns Serbian system of classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals with the United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS) is Regulation on classification, packaging, labelling and advertising of chemicals and certain articles in accordance with GHS, published in Official Gazette No. 64/10. The act entered into force on September 18th 2010 and is fully in compliance with EU Regulation 1272/2008. It sets up phase-in implementation of GHS system, parallel with EU and with transitional period entailing deadlines for re-classification and re-labelling of substances and mixtures until October 1st 2011 and June 1st 2015, respectively.

Institutional and administrative capacity building

3. Numerous activities on institutional and administrative capacity building have been undertaken during the past few years in order to establish effective system for implementation/enforcement of new legislation on chemicals. The main activities were realised through Chemicals Risk Management Project performed with assistance of Swedish Chemicals Agency (Kemi). Applying the model recognized within European countries the Serbian Chemical Agency was commenced as chemicals management competent authority; The Kemi's experience was further exploited for knowledge and administrative capacity building.

4. The above mentioned project supported activities related to implementation of GHS, too. Among the other the comprehensive training in classification and labelling of chemicals according to GHS was organised for core administration and inspection.

5. Furthermore, the Serbian Chemical Agency has launched intensive information campaign aiming to raise awareness of new system for classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals. The main target group are industry representatives and other stakeholders who are obliged to meet the requirements of newly adopted legislation. The main partner in this campaign is national Chamber of Commerce and the seminars would be held in industrial centres of Serbia.
