

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

12 December 2014

Seventh session

Geneva, 12 December 2014

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work for 2015-2016

Programme of work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals for 2015-2016

1. Classification criteria and related hazard communication

- (a) Explosives and related matters, including the review of Chapter 2.1 (Explosives) in the GHS

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

For the review of Chapter 2.1 (Explosives):

Lead country: Australia

Mandate/Terms of reference: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2014/15 and paragraph [...] of the present report

- (b) Revision of the Manual of Tests and Criteria, including:

- Revision of test methods in Parts I and II of the Manual of Tests and Criteria

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Mandate/Terms of reference: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/46 (paragraph 13), and INF.10 (paragraph 5) submitted at the 23rd session of the Sub-Committee.

- Use of the Manual of Tests and Criteria in the context of the GHS

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.19 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (c) Corrosion to metals: Consider pitting corrosion and suitability of Test C.1 for solids

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Lead country: France

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.16 (16th session) and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (d) Water-reactivity

Work on Test method N.5 for the assessment of water activated toxicity, in relation to:

- (i) the accurate and precise measurement of gas evolution rates for substances which in contact with water emit flammable or toxic gases;

- (ii) its possible application to substances which in contact with water emit corrosive gases;
- (iii) the improvement of the reproducibility of test results; and
- (iv) its suitability as a new method for the development of classification criteria, as appropriate;

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Mandate/Terms of reference: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/40 (Annex II) and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (e) Classification of flammable gases

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Lead countries: Belgium and Japan

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.5/Rev.1 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (f) Use of cellulose in Test O.2 (oxidizing liquids) and Test O.3 (oxidizing solids)

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Lead country: France

Mandate: Report of the Sub-Committee of Experts on its 27th session (document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/54, paragraph 9) and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (g) Practical classification issues

Focal point: Informal working group on practical classification issues

Lead country: United States of America

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.32 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (h) Corrosivity criteria

Continue work with the aim of achieving consistent classification outcomes for skin corrosivity that meet the needs of all sectors

Mandate/Terms of reference: Paragraphs [...] of the present report.

- (i) Dust explosion hazards

Lead country: United States of America

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.26 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (j) Aspiration hazard: viscosity criterion for classification of mixtures

Lead organization: IPPIC

Mandate/Terms of reference: paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (k) Nanomaterials

Take into account the progress of international scientific work to review the applicability of the GHS to manufactured nanomaterials, if necessary.

Lead country: France

Mandate/Terms of reference: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/52, annex II and paragraph [...] of the present report.

2. Hazard communication issues

- (a) Labelling of small packagings

Development of guidance and/or examples on the application of the general principles for the labelling of small packagings.

Lead organization: CEFIC

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.27 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (b) Improvement of Annexes 1-3 and further rationalization of precautionary statements

(i) Workstream 1: to develop proposals to rationalize and improve the usability of hazard and precautionary statements. These may include proposals to eliminate redundancies among these statements, and proposals for further guidance and precedence rules for use of the statements;

(ii) Workstream 2: to consider giving more freedom to labelling practitioners and/or enforcement authorities in assigning precautionary statements and in the precise wording used in precautionary statements, including, to consider whether to address minor linguistic variations in hazard and precautionary statements, which do not affect the obvious meaning of these statements and, if appropriate, to develop proposals;

(iii) Workstream 3: to address any other issues relating to Annexes 1-3 and the use of hazard and precautionary statements that the Sub-Committee wishes to refer to the informal correspondence group;

Lead country: United Kingdom

Mandate/Terms of reference: Paragraph [...] of the present report.

3. Implementation issues

- (a) Assessing the possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS

Lead country: United States of America

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.22 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

- (b) Facilitate the coordinated implementation of the GHS in countries and monitor the status of implementation of the GHS

- (c) Cooperate with other bodies or international organizations responsible for the administration of international agreements and conventions dealing with the management of chemicals so as to give effect to the GHS through such instruments

4. Guidance on the application of the GHS criteria

- (a) Development of examples illustrating application of criteria and any related hazard communication issues, as needed

Focal point: Informal correspondence group on practical classification issues

Lead country: United States of America

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.32 and paragraph [...] of the present report

- (b) Alignment of guidance in Annex 9 (section A9.7) and Annex 10 of the GHS with the criteria in Chapter 4.1

Lead organization: ICMM

Mandate/Terms of reference: INF.17 and paragraph [...] of the present report.

5. Capacity building

- (a) Review reports on training and capacity-building activities;
- (b) Provide assistance to United Nations programmes and specialized agencies involved in training and capacity-building activities, such as UNITAR, ILO, FAO and WHO/IPCS through the development of guidance materials, advice with respect to their training programmes and identification of available expertise and resources.]
