

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

23 June 2015

Twenty-ninth session

Geneva, 29 June – 1 July 2015

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Implementation of the GHS: Development of a list of chemicals
classified in accordance with the GHS**

Assessing the potential development of a global list of classified chemicals

**Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America on behalf
of the informal correspondence group**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this document is to provide an update on the work undertaken by the informal correspondence group assessing the potential development of a global list of classified chemicals, and an agenda for the group's meeting at the 29th session.

Background and update

2. During the 28th session, the Sub-Committee agreed to a plan of work in the pilot classification project, the three chemicals that would be evaluated in the pilot, and a provisional timeline for the project. (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/56, paragraphs 50-53; INF.22).

3. Since that time the pilot chemical sponsors, the United States, the Russian Federation, and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), developed a classification and assessment report form and a draft resource tracking form to be used in the pilot project. Copies of these forms are attached as Annexes 1 and 2¹.

4. In addition, the OECD has developed a password-protected site on its Clear Space platform for the pilot project. Those who wish to view the site may contact the expert from the OECD to obtain a password (joop.deknecht[at]oecd.org). A list prepared by the OECD of entities who have expressed an interest in participating in the pilot exercise is attached as Annex 3¹.

5. The agreed provisional schedule for the pilot project has the sponsor countries submitting their draft assessments and classifications by early June 2015. As it has worked out, this deadline was not met. All sponsors have made substantial progress towards completing their draft reports; however, they will not be completed until mid-August. The

¹ **Note by the secretariat:** For practical reasons these annexes have been published as addenda to this document. For Annex 1, see INF.12/Add.1. For Annex 2, see INF.12/Add.2, and for Annex 3, see INF.12/Add.3.

sponsors plan a teleconference on 9 July to discuss technical issues related to how to present data in the classification and assessment report.

6. Therefore, it is proposed that the schedule be modified as follows:
 - (a) Lead countries would have their draft assessments and classifications to the OECD by the beginning by mid-August 2015.
 - (b) The comment period would close by mid October 2015.
 - (c) Lead countries would respond to comments by mid November 2015.
 - (d) Initial meetings/teleconferences to discuss classifications would start in December 2015.
 - (e) The OECD would have a status report for the Sub-committee in December 2015.

Agenda

7. Interested persons are invited to attend the meeting of the correspondence group in the plenary room during a break in the 29th session of the Sub-Committee on the morning of 30 June 2015. The proposed agenda is as follows:
 - (a) Introductions and overview of meeting.
 - (b) Revised deadlines for the pilot classification exercise.
 - (c) Discussion of report forms.
 - (d) Any further comments on the pilot classification exercise.
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