

## **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**

11 July 2017

### **Thirty-third session**

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Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

### **Implementation of the GHS:**

**Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations**

## **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Chemical Dialogue activities on exchange of data on GHS implementation**

**Transmitted by the expert from the Russian Federation (chair of Virtual  
Working Group on Data Exchange) on behalf of APEC Chemical  
Dialogue**

1. The APEC Chemical Dialogue (CD) serves as a forum for regulatory officials and industry representatives to find solutions to challenges facing the chemical industry in the Asia-Pacific region. Issues addressed include chemical sector liberalisation, chemical trade facilitation, and capacity building. The CD also focuses on improving regulatory policies and practices: it seeks workable regulatory programmes which ensure that regulatory, safety, and environmental goals can be implemented by both governments and businesses.
2. The CD annually collects information regarding the progress on the GHS implementation in APEC economies. For this purpose Australia within the framework of the Virtual Working Group on GHS developed an Internet platform (GHS SmartForm) to be used for regular reporting. The general report is generated on the basis of collected data and then is submitted to approval of APEC Ministers. Approved report is published at GHS Reference Exchange and Tool (G.R.E.A.T.) clearinghouse website (<http://great.osha.gov.tw/ENG/news-in.aspx?id=12>) as well as via following link: <https://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/Chemical-Dialogue.aspx> for the purpose of use by APEC economies and all interested parties.
3. The CD is active in promoting consistent and coherent implementation of the GHS by APEC member economies. Over the years the CD has conducted numerous workshops to provide economies with information on the GHS and to build capacity to facilitate its adoption. In August 2016 the United States implemented a two-day capacity building workshop, "GHS for the Workplace: A Capacity Building Workshop". The training enabled participants to engage in discussion of progress in harmonizing the classification of chemicals, emphasizing the importance of standardization, as well as lessons learned and tools that can ease the implementation process. The outcomes of this workshop can be found at [http://mddb.apec.org/Documents/2016/MM/AMM/16\\_amm\\_008app22.pdf](http://mddb.apec.org/Documents/2016/MM/AMM/16_amm_008app22.pdf). Understanding the rationale behind competent authority building blocks selection needs further discussion within the CD.
4. Another activity within CD is the project leading by the Russian Federation on compilation of data on chemical regulatory systems in a number of countries worldwide. It

provides a base for comparison of regulatory frameworks against a set of common elements one of which is information sharing by means of the GHS elements implementation. The project is performed in the form of informational survey and analysis and includes information on 14 APEC economies along with coverage of the EU, Turkey and Argentina. Currently the compiled information is on the stage of review by countries representatives. After its approval the whole analysis will be available on APEC website for all stakeholders.

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