

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

Fifteenth session,
Geneva, 9-11 July 2008
Item 2(c) of the provisional agenda

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Progress of the work on the development of criteria for the classification and labelling of substances hazardous to the terrestrial environment

Transmitted by the experts from Australia, Austria, Slovenia and Spain

1. The 17th OECD Task Force Meeting on Harmonisation of Classification and Labelling adopted with full consensus the report submitted to the OECD by the Expert Group following the UN Subcommittee mandate for developing criteria for the classification and labelling of substances to the terrestrial environment.
2. The final report has been submitted to the UN SCEGHS by the OECD secretariat as document UN/SCEGHS/15/INF.28, and covers the issues to be assessed within this biennium according to the Subcommittee mandate.
3. As the activity was already planned for covering more than one biennium, during the presentation of the OECD Expert Group report, a suggestion regarding future activities was discussed, and the following text was provisionally agreed:

“As a result of the progress report on the work related to terrestrial Environmental hazards, it is suggested that the work should be continued with the development of a proposal for a classification scheme, including a scientific issues paper related to the development of this scheme, and analysis of benefit and potential costs associated to its implementation.”

4. It is proposed to consider this suggestion when developing a detailed proposal for a work item to be included in the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2009-2010 to the sixteenth session of the Sub-Committee.
