United Nations ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/74



Distr.: General 26 July 2019

Original: English

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

Report of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals on its thirty-seventh session

held in Geneva from 8 to 10 July 2019

Contents

				Paragraphs	Page
I.	Att	endar	ice	. 1-6	4
II.	Op	ening	of the session	. 7	4
	Cha	anges	in the secretariat	. 7	4
III.	Ad	. 8-10	4		
	EC	oso	C Resolution 2019/7 and status of publication	. 9-10	5
IV.	Classification criteria and related hazard communication (agenda item 2)				5
	A.		ck of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous ds (TDG) on matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee	. 11-15	5
		1.	Applicable temperature limits in Appendix 6 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria	. 11	5
		2.	Tests for oxidizing liquids and solids improvement regarding consideration for particle size, friable or coated materials	. 12	5
		3.	Other matters of interest	. 13-15	6
	B.	Rev	view of Chapter 2.1	. 16-25	6
		1.	Clarifications to the scope of the class of explosives	. 16-18	6
		2.	Development of a new Chapter 2.1 for the GHS (explosives)	. 19-25	6
	C.	Use	e of non-animals testing methods for classification of health hazards	. 26	7
	D.	D. Practical classification issues			7

	E.	Aspiration hazard	32	8
	F.	Nanomaterials	33	8
		Review of the applicability of the GHS classification criteria to nanomaterials	33	8
	G.	Simultaneous classification in physical hazard classes and precedence of hazards	34	9
		Outcome of discussions in the meeting of the Informal Working Group on combinations of physical hazards on 9 July 2019	34	9
	H.	Other issues	35	9
V.	Hazard communication (agenda item 3)			9
	A.	Practical labelling issue	36-40	9
		Digitalisation of hazard information for chemical products	36-40	9
	B.	Improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and further rationalization for precautionary statements		10
		1. Status of the work of the Annex 1-3 informal working group	41-48	10
		2. Proposed changes to Annex 1	49-50	11
		3. Proposed changes to the presentation of flammable gas categories and sub-categories in Annex 3	51-52	11
		4. Proposed corrections to the French version of hazard statements H410, H411 and H412	53	11
	C.	Review of Annex 4, sub-section A4.3.3.2.3	54	11
	D.	Other issues	55	11
VI.	Imp	56-70	12	
	A.	Possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS	56-58	12
		Status update on the Global list informal working group	56-58	12
	B.	Reports on the status of implementation	59-65	12
		1. Information on the status of implementation of the GHS	59-61	12
		2. Updates on the technical regulation of the Eurasian Economic		
		Union (EAEU) "on the safety of chemical products"	62-63	13
		3. European Union	64-65	13
	C.	Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations	66-69	13
		1. OECD	66-67	13
		2. Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	68-69	13
	D.	Miscellaneous	70	14 14
VII.		Development of guidance on the application of GHS criteria (agenda item 5)		
VIII.	-	Capacity building (agenda item 6) 72-73 Other business (agenda item 7) 74		
IX.	Other business (agenda item 7)			14
Χ.	Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)			14

I. Attendance

- 1. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals held its thirty-seventh session from 8 to 10 July 2019, with Mr. Paul Taylor (Australia) as Chairperson.
- 2. Experts from the following countries took part in the session: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.
- 3. Under rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, observers from Slovakia and Switzerland also took part.
- 4. A representative of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions also participated.
- 5. The following intergovernmental organizations were also represented: European Union and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- 6. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations took part in the discussion of items of concern to their organizations: Association of European Manufacturers of Sporting Ammunition (AFEMS), Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Incorporated (AEISG); Compressed Gas Association (CGA); Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC); Dangerous Goods Trainers Association (DGTA), European Association of Automotive Suppliers (CLEPA), European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC); European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA); Federation of European Aerosol Associations (FEA); International Association for Soaps, Detergents and Maintenance Products (AISE); International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC); International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA); Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME); Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa (RPMASA); and Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI).

II. Opening of the session

Changes in the secretariat

7. Mr. Yuwei Li, the Director of the Sustainable Transport Division informed the Sub-Committee that the recruitment process for the post of Chief of Section had been completed with the appointment, as of 1 June 2019, of Mr. Romain Hubert as Chief of the "Road Safety Management and Dangerous Goods Section". He thanked the Dangerous Goods team for the excellent work done during the interim period between the retirement of Mr. Kervella and the recruitment of Mr. Hubert, to avoid disruption of services. The Sub-Committee welcomed Mr. Hubert and joined Mr. Li on its appreciation of the excellent performance of the dangerous goods team during that period, and in particular of Ms. Garcia Couto during her time acting as chief of the section.

III. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/73 (Provisional agenda)

ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/73/Add.1 (List of documents and

annotations)

Informal documents: INF.1, INF.2 (List of documents)

INF.5 (Provisional timetable)

8. The Sub-Committee adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat after amending it to take account of informal documents INF.1 to INF.27/Rev.1.

ECOSOC Resolution 2019/7 and status of publications

- 9. A member of the secretariat informed the Sub-Committee that on 6 June 2019, the Economic and Social Council had considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee and its sub-committees during 2017-2018 (document E/2019/63) and had adopted without change the resolution prepared by the Committee at its ninth session (ST/SG/AC.10/46, annex IV). The Resolution will be circulated under the symbol E/RES/2019/7.
- 10. The Sub-Committee was also informed that the secretariat had already published the English edition of the twenty-first revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations and the eighth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). Publication of the English and French editions of the seventh revised edition of the Manual of Tests and Criteria is expected to be published before the end of 2019.

IV. Classification criteria and related hazard communication (agenda item 2)

A. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG) on matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee

1. Applicable temperature limits in Appendix 6 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/1 (CEFIC)

Informal documents: INF.24 (Report of the Working Group on Explosives)

INF.25 (Secretariat)

11. The Sub-Committee noted that the proposal to reintroduce the explanatory text regarding the upper temperature limit of 500 °C for evaluation of the exothermic decomposition energy in appendix 6, section 3.3(c), of the Manual of Tests and Criteria had been discussed in the Working Group on Explosives of the TDG Sub-Committee (see informal document INF.25, item 1) and concurred with its conclusion.

2. Tests for oxidizing liquids and oxidizing solids improvement regarding consideration for particle size, friable or coated materials

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/4 (France)

Informal documents: INF. 16 (France)

INF.25 (Secretariat)

12. The Sub-Committee took note of the information provided on the documents and thanked the expert from France for undertaking work on this topic in accordance with the programme of work for 2019-2020.

3. Other matters of interest

Informal documents: INF 24 and INF.25 (Secretariat)

- 13. The Sub-Committee noted that the TDG Sub-Committee had adopted amendments to 2.8.3.2 of the Model Regulations to take into account the OECD Guideline for the testing of chemicals No. 439, allowing consideration of substances or mixtures as non-corrosive to skin for the purposes of the Model Regulations without further new testing. It also included a statement for assigning substances or mixtures to packing group 1 when the test method for corrosivity does not allow discrimination among packing groups (see informal document INF.25, item 3).
- 14. The Chair of the Working Group on Explosives introduced the conclusion on the topics related to Test Series 4 (b) (ii), 6 and 8 as reflected in informal document INF.24.
- 15. With regards to Test Series 6, the Sub-Committee was informed that an informal correspondence group led by SAAMI would continue discussions and develop guidance as to what should be considered hazardous effects and to refine the 6(d) criteria, if appropriate. Interested experts from the GHS Sub-Committee were invited to participate.

B. Review of Chapter 2.1

1. Clarifications to the scope of the class of explosives

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/7 (SAAMI)

Informal documents: INF.6 (Sweden)

INF.14 (SAAMI)

- 16. The Sub-Committee agreed with the conclusion of the Working Group on Explosives and confirmed that the work on the definitions of explosives is a standalone project and that proposals could be developed independently of the work to review Chapter 2.1 of the GHS.
- 17. Proposals could be developed first for the Model Regulations and subsequently be adapted for inclusion in the GHS to fit within its scope and purpose.
- 18. It was concluded that the GHS Sub-Committee should follow the outcome of the discussions in the Working Group on Explosives on this subject.

2. Development of a new Chapter 2.1 for the GHS (explosives)

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/5 (Sweden)

Informal documents: INF.8 and INF 18 (United States of America, IME, SAAMI),

INF.9, INF 21 and INF.26 (Sweden)

INF.24 (Report of the Working Group on Explosives of the TDG

Sub-Committee)
INF.25 (Secretariat)

19. The expert from Sweden presented the status report as reflected in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/5 and clarified that the objective was to present a proposal to provide a revised Chapter 2.1 of the GHS to the thirty-ninth session of the Sub-Committee to be finalized, if needed, at the fortieth session. The expert from the United States of America introduced informal document INF.8 containing proposed criteria and related definitions to the new classifications under consideration.

- 20. The Chair of the Working Group on Explosives reported on the outcome of discussions regarding Chapter 2.1 of the GHS as reflected in informal document INF.24, paragraph 8. The expert from Sweden reported on the informal discussions that took place during the joint meeting of the Working Group on Explosives and the informal correspondence group on the review of GHS Chapter 2.1 as included in informal document INF.21.
- 21. Some experts pointed out that there were still some outstanding policy issues regarding hazard communication for substances or mixtures with explosive properties that do not meet the current criteria to be classified as explosives. Additional hazard communication information could be provided in the Safety Data Sheet but in some countries a classification is a prerequisite to require a Safety Data Sheet.
- 22. Some concerns were raised regarding the use of Test Series 1 to classify these substances or mixtures as, in the opinion of some experts, this would expand the scope of the GHS for explosives. It was also noted that an expansion of the scope of the GHS for explosives would have severe legal consequences for industry. The expert from Sweden clarified that possible solutions to be proposed would have to retain the current scope of Chapter 2.1 in accordance with the mandate given to the informal correspondence group by the Sub-Committee.
- 23. The Sub-Committee was informed that the informal correspondence group on the review of GHS Chapter 2.1 met in the afternoon of the 8 July 2019 to discuss primarily the hazard communication elements for the various classifications of the new GHS classification system, the outcome of those discussions is presented in informal document INF.26. The Sub-Committee thanked the expert from Sweden and the informal correspondence group for the work.
- 24. It was mentioned that the general exclusion for substances and mixtures that have not been assigned to Class 1 for transport (see paragraph 3 of informal document INF.26) should also include articles and the Sub-Committee agreed with this interpretation.
- 25. It was concluded that clear progress had been made towards finalization of the criteria and hazard communication elements and that the Sub-Committee was looking forward to the outcome of discussions in the working group on explosives and the informal correspondence group.

C. Use of non-animal testing methods for classification of health hazards

Informal document: INF.17 (United Kingdom and the Netherlands)

26. The expert from the Netherlands presented the status report as reflected in informal document INF.17. The Sub-Committee thanked the informal working group for the update. It noted that a meeting of the informal working group had taken place on 9 July 2019 after the plenary session and that a report on the progress of the work will be submitted to the thirty-eighth session.

D. Practical classification issues

Cut-off value/concentration limit for classification of mixtures for serious eye damage

Informal document: INF.13 (United States of America)

27. The Sub-Committee was presented with a thought starter on GHS cut-off value/concentration limit for mixtures classification as serious eye damage: review of

science. It was invited to provide more information to enrich the review of science or data on scientific studies to assist in the work of the informal working group, if available.

- 28. The practical classification issues working group met during the lunch break on 8 July 2019 to discuss items (a), (e), and (f) from the agreed program of work.
- 29. With regard to work item (a), three examples were discussed that illustrate the relationship between acute toxicity and specific target organ toxicity following single and repeated exposure. There was general agreement within the group regarding the first two examples, however, for the third example, the informal working group indicated that they needed additional time to consider the content of the example. The thought starter will be updated to incorporate the minor editorial comments received and the informal working group will resume discussions on this issue through teleconference prior to the next Sub-Committee session.
- 30. Regarding work item (e), the informal working group discussed a thought starter provided by ECHA, which addressed the concept of applying additivity to health hazard classes for which additivity is not explicitly mentioned. The group provided feedback on the proposal and responses to the questions that were raised in the thought starter. ECHA agreed to update their proposal for further consideration.
- 31. Regarding work item (f), the informal working group discussed that additional data would be helpful to thoroughly consider this issue. Some members indicated that they found it difficult to determine if there was a true over-classification for serious eye damage Cat 1 by using the 3% cut-off value in the additivity approach for all industries or just within the pesticide and cleaning products industries, as evidenced in the studies provided in the thought starter. The expert from AISE indicated that he will consider the comments received during the discussion and provide an updated thought starter at a future time.

E. Aspiration hazard

32. The expert from IPPIC indicated that he would provide a strengthened proposal based on the one presented in ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/34 at the thirty-sixth session of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee welcomed the update and was looking forward to the proposal for the next session.

F. Nanomaterials

Review of the applicability of the GHS classification criteria to nanomaterials

Informal document: INF.11 (Finland)

33. The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by the expert from Sweden on behalf of the expert from Finland, on the completion of the project on the applicability of GHS criteria to four selected manufactured nanomaterials (single-walled carbon nano tubes, nano silicon dioxide, nano silver and nano zinc oxide) for the hazard classes listed in paragraph 3 of informal document INF.11. The expert from Sweden briefly presented the main conclusions of the study. The full report of the project is available on the website of the Nordic Council of Ministers. The Sub-Committee thanked the Nordic classification group for the work done, which provides useful information on classification of nanomaterials.

http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A1315194&dswid=-850

G. Simultaneous classification in physical hazard classes and precedence of hazards

Outcome of discussions in the meeting of the Informal Working group on combinations of physical hazards on 9 July 2019

Informal document: INF.27 (Germany on behalf of the informal working group)

34. The Sub-Committee was informed that the informal working group on combinations of physical hazards met for the first time during the lunch break on 9 July 2019 with the main objective of identifying possible ways forward for future work. The outcome of those discussions was presented in informal document INF.27. It was mentioned that during the discussions of the informal working group some experts pointed out that there was no intention of introducing a precedence of hazards in the GHS and that informal document INF.27 should be amended accordingly. The Sub-Committee thanked the expert from Germany and the informal working group for the work.

H. Other issues

35. As no document had been submitted under this agenda sub-item no discussion took place on this issue.

V. Hazard communication (agenda item 3)

A. Practical labelling issues

Digitalisation of hazard information for chemical products

Informal documents: INF.7 and INF.28 (CEFIC)

- 36. The Sub-Committee thanked the representative of CEFIC and the informal working group on practical labelling issues for the thought starter presented in informal document INF.7. It was mentioned that digitalisation of hazard information for chemical products was an urgent and important issue and all experts were invited to participate in the work of the informal working group.
- 37. The informal working group met on 9 July 2019 and overall, members expressed general support for the work, acknowledging that advances in digital technology were providing society with potential benefits in terms of hazard communication, specifically:
 - (a) Digital information could be provided in addition to the traditional physical label;
 - (b) Digital information can increase readability and understanding of hazard information;
 - (c) Supplemental and additional information could be easily accommodated including special needs;
 - (d) Swift and targeted updates of hazard information could be provided.
- 38. Some experts underlined that digital communication should not replace the physical label, given that in some cases electronic access could not be available (e.g. emergency situation, limited internet access, etc.). In addition, the potential challenges related to enforcement and legal validity of an electronic label should be considered.

- 39. The other item on the work program of the group (review and update examples 1 to 7 in Annex 7) was briefly addressed. Different options will be proposed for the thirty-eighth session.
- 40. The Sub-Committee thanked the informal working group for the work and was looking forward to the outcome of future discussions on the subject.

B. Improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and further rationalization of precautionary statements

1. Status of the work of the Annex 1-3 informal working group

Informal document: INF.23 (United Kingdom)

- 41. The expert from the United Kingdom presented the status report as reflected in informal document INF.23. The Sub-Committee thanked the informal working group for the update and was informed that a meeting of the informal working group had taken place on 8 July 2019 with the draft agenda provided in informal document INF.23.
- 42. During the discussions, no significant issues were raised regarding the proposed changes to flammable gas presentation in Annex 3.
- 43. The working group thanked the AISE representatives for their efforts and for the significant amount of work they have done in bringing the issue on the potential conditional use of P102 "Keep out of reach of children" precautionary pictograms forward. However, it concluded that this issue had been fully explored and the informal working group did not support taking this issue further forward.
- 44. The representative of RPMASA informed the Sub-Committee that the South African project by Ms. Andrea Rother of University of CapeTown Medical school on comprehensibility of precautionary pictograms for "Keep out of reach of children" had been delayed and that she hoped to report back on the outcomes at the next session. The Sub-Committee concluded that this was an important issue and invited interested experts to continue work on the subject.
- 45. Lastly, the informal working group briefly discussed a thought starter on a number of minor corrections in Section 3 of Annex 3 and agreed to take several of these issues forward for the consideration of the Sub-Committee at the December session.
- 46. A question was raised regarding a proposal for visual differentiation of labels/placards for gases presented at the fifty-fifth session of the TDG Sub-Committee that was still under consideration due to the impact of this proposal on the work of the informal working group. The Chair of the TDG Sub-Committee gave an update on the outcome of the discussions as reflected in the report of the TDG Sub-Committee (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/110, paragraphs 72 to 75).
- 47. It was clarified that work related to this subject was still in a preliminary stage and that it might not be concluded during the current biennium. Also, if the proposal were to be adopted, a transitional period would be put in place to allow enough time for implementation.
- 48. It was proposed that the informal working group should follow closely the work at the TDG Sub-Committee and identify when it was appropriate to bring this issue to the attention of the GHS Sub-Committee for consideration.

2. Proposed changes to Annex 1

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/2 (United Kingdom)

Informal documents: INF.3 and INF.3/Rev.1 (United Kingdom)

- 49. The Sub-Committee was informed that the proposals contained in informal document INF.3/Rev.1 were drafted taking into account several comments from participants in the informal working group and the secretariat. Given that informal document INF.3/Rev.1 was submitted rather late, the proposals were only intended for information and a working document will be presented for the next session.
- 50. It was also mentioned that changes to Annex 1 related to transport labels should be presented to the TDG Sub-Committee for information.

3. Proposed changes to the presentation of flammable gas categories and sub-categories in Annex 3

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/3 (United Kingdom)

- 51. When discussing the proposal, the expert from the United States of America clarified that during the numerous revisions of Chapter 2.2 Flammable Gases, it was debated if Pyrophoric Gas, Chemically Unstable Gas Category A and Chemically Unstable Gas Category B were considered "categories" or "sub-categories". It was agreed that the terminology to be used was "categories" as oppose to the term "sub-categories" used in the proposal.
- 52. After taking into consideration the point noted on terminology, the proposal was adopted (see annex).

4. Proposed corrections to the French versions of hazard statements H410, H411 and H412

Informal document: INF.12 (Secretariat)

53. The Sub-Committee took note of the proposed corrections in informal document INF.12 and thanked the secretariat for identifying this issue. It was agreed that the proposed corrections should be presented in a working document for the next session of the Sub-Committee.

C. Review of Annex 4, sub-section A4.3.3.2.3

54. As no document had been submitted under this agenda sub-item no discussion took place on this issue.

D. Other issues

55. As no document had been submitted under this agenda sub-item no discussion took place on this issue.

VI. Implementation of the GHS (agenda item 4)

A. Possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS

Status update on the Global list informal working group

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/6 (United States of America and Canada)

Informal document: INF.10 (United States of America and Canada)

- 56. The Sub-Committee took note of the status update provided in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/6 and adopted the program of work for the Global list informal working group as reflected in informal document INF.10.
- 57. The informal working group met on 9 July 2019 and discussed the potential work streams identified in informal document INF.10. The informal working group supported placing those work streams on the group's program of work, with the understanding that the first step would be to perform the work in paragraph 11 (a) and (b). Those items involve identifying existing lists that implement the GHS and comparing them with the guiding principles in Annex III to the report of the twenty-fourth session of the Sub-Committee (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/48).
- 58. Several delegates identified lists that could be included as part of this evaluation. The expert from Sweden indicated that the Swedish Chemicals Agency is in the process of commissioning a study which would incorporate the work items in paragraph 11 (a) and (b) into that review. He also indicated that the study on classification lists would also include a review of GHS implementation status. He anticipated that a draft matrix of existing lists could be presented to the working group at the thirty-eighth session, and that the study could be presented to the Sub-Committee at the thirty-ninth session.

B. Reports on the status of implementation

1. Information on the status of implementation of the GHS

Informal document: INF.15 (CEFIC)

- 59. The Sub-Committee thanked the representative of CEFIC for the work done in the template as it supports one of the main overall objectives of information gathering on GHS implementation. It was explained that the purpose of informal document INF.15 was to collect comments from experts and incorporate them in a future proposal.
- 60. Several comments were made regarding items that should be included in the template, for example:
 - (a) Information on competent authorities,
 - (b) Sectors that are implementing the GHS,
 - (c) Classification lists,
 - (d) Acceptance and application more recent revisions of the GHS, and
 - (e) Specification of cut-off values for mixtures.
- 61. It was mentioned that ways of collecting information and the use of the UNECE website to publish the information received by the secretariat should be established in the upcoming proposal.

2. Updates on the technical regulation of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) "on the safety of chemical products"

Informal document: INF.22 (Russian Federation)

- 62. The Sub-Committee noted the information about the adoption of Decision No. 19 of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission the technical regulation "On the safety of chemical products" (TR EAEU 041/2017) for entry into force after 2 June 2021.
- 63. This regulation implements the mandatory application of GHS in the Russian Federation within the framework of the system of national standards (GOSTs) on test methods, criteria for classification and elements of hazard communication, which are currently applied on a voluntary basis. At the moment, all national standards are undergoing a revision procedure in accordance with the seventh revised edition of the GHS.

3. European Union

- 64. GHS revised editions 6 and 7 have been transferred into European Union legislation by COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2019/521 of 27 March 2019 amending, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical and scientific progress Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (see Official Journal OJ L 86, 28.3.2019, p. 1–36).
- 65. Work on the revision of Annex II (requirements for the compilation of safety data sheets) to the Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) is ongoing. It aims at adapting Annex II with the sixth and seventh revised editions of the GHS, to align with Annex VIII of the EU Regulation 2017/542 (about harmonised information relating to emergency health response). The revision also addresses additional considerations on nanomaterials. A draft text of the revised REACH Annex II is under preparation for submission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) (technical barriers to trade (TBT) notification) and for a parallel public consultation.

C. Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations

1. OECD

- 66. The representative of OECD informed the Sub-Committee that it was currently working to update the OECD references in the GHS text (including those in the Model Regulations and in the Manual of Tests and Criteria where there are a few references) and plan to submit the updates for the December session.
- 67. They added that a video tutorial on how to find GHS classification information in eChemPortal, was released in December 2018. The interface was being updated to facilitate the use of the eChemPortal which should be available in December 2019.

2. Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

Informal documents: INF.19 and INF.20 (Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions)

68. A member of the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions informed the Sub-Committee on the outcome of the second meeting of the expert working group on the review of Annexes I, III and IV and related aspects of Annex IX to the Basel Convention, as reflected in informal documents INF.19 and INF.20.

69. It was mentioned that the next meeting of the expert working group would take place on early November 2019 and that interested experts as well as the secretariat are invited to participate. The Sub-Committee thanked the secretariat for the update and invited her to keep it informed of future developments.

D. Miscellaneous

70. As no document had been submitted under this agenda sub-item no discussion took place on this issue.

VII. Development of guidance on the application of GHS criteria (agenda item 5)

71. The representative of IPIECA informed the Sub-Committee that an updated version of the Guidance on the application of Globally Harmonized System (GHS) criteria to petroleum substances would be presented as a working document for the next session of the Sub-Committee.

VIII. Capacity building (agenda item 6)

- 72. The representative of UNITAR informed the Sub-Committee that it continues with its capacity building efforts to support the GHS. Projects in Uzbekistan and the Republic of Guinea finished at the end of 2018, with both countries now having a GHS implementation strategy. UNITAR held introductory workshops on the GHS in Ghana in January 2019 and Ivory Coast in March 2019. The workshops were supported by the German Government and CEFIC, with the support of the International Labor Organization (ILO) and a senior expert. UNITAR was looking for ways to further these activities, so that it can support the countries on their way to implementation.
- 73. It was noted that one session of the GHS e-Learning course was completed, with 24 out of 31 participants successfully completing it. The next course will take place from 23 September to 4 December 2019.

IX. Other business (agenda item 7)

74. As no document had been submitted under this agenda item no discussion took place on this issue.

X. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)

75. In accordance with the established practice, the Sub-Committee adopted the report on its thirty-seventh session and its annex based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Draft amendments to the eighth revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.8)

Annex 3

Section 2, table A3.2.2

For code "P203", hazard class "Flammable gases (chapter 2.2)", replace column (4) by:

For codes "P210", "P377", "P381" and "P403", hazard class "Flammable gases (chapter 2.2)", replace column (4) by:

	Flammable gas		
1 A	Pyrophoric gas		
1A	Chemically unstable gas A		
	Chemically unstable gas B		
1B, 2			

For codes "P222" and "P280", hazard class "Flammable gases (chapter 2.2)", in column (4), before "Pyrophoric gas", insert "1A,".

(Reference document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2019/3)