

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

Tenth session

Geneva, 11 December 2020

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work for 2021-2022

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Note by the secretariat

1. The Committee may wish to consider the proposals made by the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) and the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee) at their December 2020 sessions for their respective programmes of work and approve them in the light of resources available for 2021–2022.

A. Programme of work for the TDG Sub-Committee

2. Based on the proposals discussed and approved under various agenda items during its fifty-seventh session, the TDG Sub-Committee agreed to include the following items in its work programme for 2021-2022:

- (a) Explosives and related matters (including review of test series 6; improvement of test series 8; review of tests in parts I, II and III of the Manual of Tests and Criteria; UN standard detonator; review of packing instructions for explosives; application of security provisions to explosives N.O.S.; Test N.1 for readily combustible solids; energetic samples; issues related to the definition of explosives; review of packaging and transport requirements for ANEs);
- (b) Listing, classification and packing (including amendments to the list of dangerous goods and packing instructions; toxicity of UN Nos. 2248, 2264 and 2357, polymerizing substances);
- (c) Electric storage systems (including testing of lithium batteries; hazard-based system for classification of lithium batteries; transport provisions; damaged or defective lithium batteries; and sodium-ion batteries);
- (d) Transport of gases (including global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles; limited quantities for division 2.2);
- (e) Miscellaneous proposals of amendments to the Model Regulations (including documentation (e.g. e-documentation), marking and labelling issues; packaging issues and use of recycled plastics material; tank issues; fibre-reinforced plastics (FRP) portable tanks; portable tanks (other than FRP));
- (f) Cooperation with IAEA;
- (g) Global harmonization of transport of dangerous goods regulations with the Model Regulations;
- (h) Guiding principles for the Model Regulations;

- (i) Issues relating to the GHS (including testing of oxidizing substances; chemicals under pressure, references to OECD Guidelines; simultaneous classification in physical hazards and precedence of hazards);
- (j) Unified interpretations of the Model Regulations;
- (k) Implementation of the Model Regulations;
- (l) Dangerous goods safety training and capacity building.

B. Programme of work for the GHS Sub-Committee

3. Based on the proposals discussed and approved under various agenda items during its thirty-ninth session, the GHS Sub-Committee agreed to the following programme of work for 2021-2022:

1. Classification criteria and related hazard communication, including:

- (a) Tests for oxidizing liquids and oxidizing solids
- (b) Use of non-animal testing methods for classification of health hazards
- (c) Classification of skin sensitizers using the results of LLNA test methods in accordance with OECD Test Guideline TG442B
- (d) Classification criteria for germ cell mutagenicity (sub-category 1B)
- (e) Practical classification issues
- (f) Nanomaterials
- (g) Simultaneous classification in physical hazard classes and precedence of hazards

2. Hazard communication issues, including:

- (a) Practical labelling issues
- (b) Improvement of Annexes 1 to 3 and further rationalization of precautionary statements

3. Implementation issues, including:

- (a) Assessing the possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS
- (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 to give effect to the GHS through such instruments

4. Guidance on the application of the GHS criteria, including:

- (a) Development of examples illustrating application of criteria and any related hazard communication issues, as needed
- (b) Alignment of guidance in Annex 9 (section A9.7) and Annex 10 of the GHS with the criteria in Chapter 4.1

5. Capacity building, including:

- (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
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