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

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GHS virtual training in South Africa

Transmitted by the Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa (RPMASA)

Introduction

1. This paper is to inform the Sub-Committee that with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions, and precautions RPMASA has continued to present GHS and Dangerous Goods Training virtually on MS Teams.

2. Virtual GHS Introduction, and Advanced courses were presented in March and May to help build capacity in Industry to support the South African Department of Employment and Labour new Hazardous Chemical Agents Regulations, which as part of the Occupational Health and Safety Act come into effect in September 2022. These regulations make GHS classification, GHS compliant Safety Data Sheets and labelling compulsory for hazardous chemicals in the work environment, and require GHS Classification to be used for Workplace Risk Assessments.

3. It was pleasing to have a number of representatives from other Regulators attend to understand how the GHS impacts on their regulations.

4. In addition, a course on packaging and labelling was presented virtually to one of the large packaging companies to help them understand requirement under both Transport of Dangerous Goods and the GHS requirements should be applied for safe, compliant packaging and labelling for safe storage, handling, transport and use.

5. Further GHS Training courses are scheduled for September and November.