

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

6 December 2022

Forty-third session

Geneva, 7-9 December 2022

Items 3 (a), (b) and (i) of the provisional agenda

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

Note by the secretariat

At its sixty-first session, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) considered matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee under items 2 (b) and 10 of its agenda¹ (“explosives and related matters” and “Issues relating to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals” respectively). The decisions and opinions expressed by the TDG Sub-Committee on these matters are listed below.

GHS agenda item 3 (a)

1. Definitions of “pyrotechnic substance” and “explosive or pyrotechnic effect”

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/8 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/47 (Sweden)

“18. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendment to the definition of “pyrotechnic substance” and the introduction of definition of “explosive or pyrotechnic effect” as proposed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/47 (see annex ...). It was noted that the GHS Sub-Committee would be informed about the TDG Sub-Committee’s decision when considering the corresponding amendments to the GHS proposed in paragraphs 13 and 14 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/47.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.1, para 18: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 61st session, as adopted during the report reading on 6 December 2022).

2. Self-heating text N.4 for organic peroxides and polymerizing substance

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/12 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/57 (Cefic)

“14. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendments proposed in paragraphs 5 and 6 in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/57 to sections 1.2.1.4.3 and 20.2.5 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria (see annex ...). It was noted that the official document was also listed on the agenda of the GHS Sub-Committee. This decision should be brought to the attention of the GHS Sub-Committee.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.1, para 14: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 61st session, as adopted during the report reading on 6 December 2022).

¹ ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/121.

3. Metal powders and powders of metals or metal alloys in test N.1

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/12 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/66 (China)

Informal document: INF.12 (GHS) – INF.44 (TDG) (United Kingdom)

“83. After consideration of the proposals in both documents, the Sub-Committee adopted the amendments to the Manual of Tests and Criteria and the Model Regulations proposed in informal document INF.44 (see annex...). It supported the amendments to chapter 2.7 of the GHS, subject to the endorsement by the GHS Sub-Committee.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.9, para 83: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 61st session, as adopted during the report reading on 6 December 2022).

GHS agenda item 3 (b)

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

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/48 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/9 (Germany)

“79. The Sub-Committee affirmed the interpretation of Note 1 to table 2.3.1 of the GHS as described in sections I and II of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/48, and confirmed that all listed components should not be part of aerosols because such flammable components could react with air. It was recommended that special provision 63 should be aligned with the text of special provision 362.

80. On section III, the Sub-Committee noted the historical background of Test C.1 for corrosive to metals (e.g. aluminium and steel) and the hazards of material released, especially for aircrafts. It was confirmed that the test provisions do not apply neither to gases nor to packagings. On section IV, it was noted that Note 1 to 2.8.2.2 and 2.15.2.2 of GHS for self-reactive and organic peroxides of type G was intended to be broad and that following the usual principles for classification no clarification was needed.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.9, paras 79 and 80: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 61st session, as adopted during the report reading on 6 December 2022).

GHS agenda item 3 (i)

5. Classification of desensitized explosives

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/10 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/50 (Germany, USA)

Informal documents: INF.5 (GHS) - INF.4 (TDG) (Germany, USA)

INF.12 (GHS) - INF.20 (AEISG)

INF.18 (GHS) - INF.42 (United Kingdom)

INF.35 (GHS) - INF.59 (Germany, United Kingdom, USA)

“81. The Sub-Committee agreed to defer to the next biennium consideration of the proposal related to issue 1 in informal document INF.20. After consideration of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/50, it adopted the proposed amendments to section 51 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria as amended by informal document INF.59 (see annex...) and also supported the amendments to chapter 2.17 of the GHS, subject to endorsement by the GHS Sub-Committee.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.9 para. 81: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 58th session)

6. Testing of flammable liquids

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/11 - ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/52 (Germany, Chair of the explosives working group)

“82. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendments to the Manual of Tests and Criteria proposed in the annex of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/52 as amended (see annex...). It indicated its support on the corresponding proposal to the GHS. The value of “5 °C” was replaced by “5.6 °C” to align with 2.3.1.2 of the Model Regulations, although one expert raised concern that using a value with decimals could convey a false sense of accuracy. It was noted that the “5.6 °C” value was originating from the conversion of 10 °F into the Celsius scale.”

(Ref.doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2022/R.3/Add.9 para. 82: draft report of the TDG Sub-Committee on its 58th session)
