



## 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 forty-seventh session

Held in Geneva from 4 to 6 December 2024

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## I. Attendance

1. The Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals held its forty-seventh session from 4 to 6 December 2024, with Ms. Nina John (Austria) as Chairperson and Ms. Janet Carter (United States of America) as vice-chairperson.
2. Experts from the following countries took part in the session: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands (Kingdom of), Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.
3. Under rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, Switzerland also took part as observer.
4. Representatives of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the World Health Organization (WHO) were also present.
5. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: European Union and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
6. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations took part in the discussion of items of concern to their organizations: Australasian Explosives Industry Safety Group Incorporated (AEISG); Compressed Gas Association (CGA); CropLife International; Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC); European Aerosol Federation (FEA); European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic); European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA); International Association of the Soap Detergent and Maintenance Products Industry (A.I.S.E.); International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA); International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM); International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA); Responsible Packaging Management Association of Southern Africa (RPMASA); and Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI).

## II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/93 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/93/Add.1 (secretariat)

Informal documents: INF.1, INF.2, INF.16 (secretariat) and INF.27 (Chair)

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the secretariat after amending it to take account of informal documents INF.1 to INF.35.

## III. Work on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (agenda item 2)

### A. Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/11 (secretariat)

Informal documents: INF.7 and INF.33, item A (secretariat)

8. The Sub-Committee confirmed the decisions taken at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions on the basis of a consolidated list prepared by the secretariat, with the corrections to 2.3.2.1.2 and 3.4.5.3.2.3.5 proposed in informal document INF.7 and an additional correction to the amendments to annex 7, example 1, to reinsert the GHS pictogram for flammable liquids that was inadvertently omitted on the label (see annex I).
9. The Sub-Committee was informed that the recommendations concerning the amendments to paragraphs 32.3.2.1 and 33.3.1 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria made at its forty-sixth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/92, paragraph 12 and annex II), had been endorsed by the TDG Sub-Committee (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1). It was noted that

the consolidated list of amendments to the Manual of Tests and Criteria would be circulated as an annex to the report of the Committee of Experts.<sup>1</sup>

## **B. Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods on matters of interest to the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**

### **1. Use of expert judgment related to explosives testing in chapter 2.17**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/12 (SAAMI)

Informal document: INF.33, item B.1 (secretariat)

10. The Sub-Committee endorsed the views and recommendations of the TDG Sub-Committee in informal document INF.33, item B.1.

11. It was pointed out that according to paragraph 1.3.2.4.8 of the GHS, expert judgement can be used to ensure that existing information on chemicals can be used for classification (i.e. to waive unnecessary testing) or to interpret data, but not to waive application of the classification criteria. In this context, the Sub-Committee acknowledged the clarifications provided by the representative of SAAMI on the intent of the proposal and invited him to reconsider the text for the proposed note 2 to 2.17.2.2 in paragraph 17 of the document in the light of the comments made.

12. Other comments addressed, among other aspects, the need to refine the list of UN numbers, the interpretation of the concept of “expert judgement” (as defined in the GHS) and its applicability in the context of the Manual of Tests and Criteria and the Model Regulations, as well as additional clarifications on the substances and mixtures addressed by the proposal.

13. The representative of SAAMI welcomed the feedback provided and invited experts to send their comments in writing. He indicated that he will take them into account and forward them for consideration by the Working Group on Energetics of the TDG Sub-Committee, as appropriate.

### **2. Nitrocellulose mixtures in chapter 2.17 (Desensitized explosives), section 51 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria and special provision 393 of the Model Regulations**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/14 (United States of America)

Informal documents: INF.5 (United States of America)  
INF.33, item B.2 (secretariat)

14. The Sub-Committee endorsed the views and recommendations of the TDG Sub-Committee in informal document INF.33 (item B.2) and adopted the amendments to chapter 2.17 of the GHS and section 51 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/14 (see annexes I and II). It was noted that the TDG Sub-Committee had adopted the related amendment to special provision 393 of the Model Regulations, as proposed in paragraph 5 of informal document INF.5.<sup>2</sup>

15. The expert from the United States of America reiterated its commitment to work on the development of a unified testing scheme for nitrocellulose.

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<sup>1</sup> For the consolidated list of amendments to the twenty-second revised edition of the Model Regulations see document ST/SG/AC.10/52/Add.1. For the consolidated list of amendments to the eighth revised edition of the Manual of Tests and Criteria see document ST/SG/AC.10/52/Add.2.

<sup>2</sup> See document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1.

**3. Packing group assignment for flammable solids other than metal powders**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/13 (China)

Informal document: INF.33, item B.3 (secretariat)

16. The Sub-Committee took note of the outcome of the discussion of this document at the TDG Sub-Committee. The expert from China indicated that work to further develop the proposal would continue in the light of additional research and feedback received from TDG and GHS Sub-Committee experts. Delegations interested in contributing to the work were invited to send their comments in writing. It was noted that the Energetic and Oxidizing Substances (EOS) Working Group of the International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS) may also be able to contribute to the proposal during its next meeting in April 2025.

**4. Burning rate: Report of the informal correspondence group on the revision of subsection 51.4 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/15 (China)

Informal documents: INF.4 (China)  
INF.33, item B.4 (secretariat)

17. The Sub-Committee took note of the report of the informal working group and concurred with the decision of the TDG Sub-Committee to adopt the amendments to subsection 51.4 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria listed in paragraph 5 of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/15 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1).

**5. Aerosols: alignment of special provision 63 with special provision 362**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/16 (FEA)

Informal document: INF.33, item B.5 (secretariat)

18. The Sub-Committee took note of the adoption by the TDG Sub-Committee of the proposed amendments to special provision 63 of the Model Regulations as well as paragraphs 31.1.3 and 31.3.3 in section 31 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria and concurred with this decision (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1).

**6. Classification of thermites and thermite containing articles**

Informal documents: INF.9 (United Kingdom)  
INF.33, item B.6 (secretariat)

19. The Sub-Committee concurred with the TDG Sub-Committee on the need to address this topic. Interested delegations were invited to contact the expert from the United Kingdom.

**7. Other matters of interest to the Sub-Committee**

Informal document: INF.33, items B.7 and B.8 (secretariat)

**(a) Change in name of the Explosives Working Group**

20. The Sub-Committee was informed that the TDG Sub-Committee had agreed to rename the “Working Group on Explosives” as “Working Group on Energetics (EWG)”, to better reflect the scope of the work undertaken by the group and the type of substances, mixtures and articles addressed.

**(b) Review of parts I, II and III of the Manual of Tests and Criteria: amendments to the Koenen test specifications**

21. The Sub-Committee was also informed that the TDG Sub-Committee had adopted amendments to the Koenen test specifications in sub-sections 11.5, 12.5, 18.6 and 25.4 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria as well as a new appendix 12 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1). It was noted that the Koenen test is used to assess the

sensitiveness of solid and liquids substances (e.g. explosives, self-reactives) to the effect of intense heat under high confinement.

### **C. Simultaneous classification in physical hazards and precedence of hazards**

Informal documents: INF.12 (Germany)  
INF.33, item C (secretariat)

22. The Sub-Committee took note of the progress of work of the informal working group in paragraphs 3 and 4 as well as of the ongoing activities in paragraph 5 of informal document INF.12. The expert from Germany reiterated the invitation to experts interested in contributing to the work of the informal working group to contact her.

### **D. Use of non-animal testing methods for classification of health and environmental hazards**

Informal documents: INF.23 and INF.24 (Netherlands, United Kingdom)

23. The Sub-Committee took note of the progress of work within the informal working group since the last session in paragraphs 4 to 8 of informal document INF.23 and agreed to remove the reference to “testing” from the work item and the name of the informal working group to better reflect its scope.

24. The Sub-Committee endorsed the programme of work for 2025-2026 proposed by the informal working group in informal document INF.24 (see paragraph 53 and annex III to the present report).

25. The representative of the European Union informed the Sub-Committee that the European Commission was working on the development of a roadmap towards phasing out animal testing for chemical safety assessments. He indicated that two workshops related to this topic had already been organized in December 2023 and October 2024 and that a third workshop was scheduled on 16-17 June 2025. It was pointed out that participation was open to all stakeholders, including those outside the European Union, and made possible either in person or online. He volunteered to provide additional information on progress on the development of the roadmap and the outcome of the workshop at the next session of the Sub-Committee.

### **E. Classification criteria for germ cell mutagenicity**

Informal document: INF.19 (European Union)

26. The Sub-Committee took note of the progress of work during the current biennium. It was noted in particular that the group had agreed to finalize the work under the current terms of reference before considering whether to expand the scope of mutagenicity classification in the GHS. Having considered the information provided, the Sub-Committee endorsed the programme of work for 2025-2026 proposed by the informal working group as contained in paragraphs 10 to 15 of informal document INF.19 (see paragraph 53 and annex III to the present report).

### **F. Potential hazard issues and their presentation in the Globally Harmonized System**

#### **1. Work on endocrine disruptors**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/20 (OECD)

Informal documents: INF.21 and INF.34 (OECD)  
INF.32 (Canada, United States of America)  
INF.22 (European Union), paragraphs 3 to 8

27. It was generally agreed that the OECD ad hoc group had fulfilled the mandate given by the Sub-Committee. A few delegations disagreed with that view.

28. While acknowledging the expertise and the work accomplished by the OECD ad hoc group on potential hazards classes for endocrine disrupters in the GHS, several delegations expressed concerns about the difficulties encountered by national experts to accommodate the additional workload in relation to this topic and comply with the established timelines. There was broad support for the conclusions as contained in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/20 and informal document INF.21. However, the concerns expressed in informal document INF.32 were supported by some experts, along with the clarifications provided in informal document INF.34.

29. Having considered the range of opinions expressed by all delegations that requested the floor, the Sub-Committee agreed that work to address endocrine disrupters in the GHS should continue, building on the conclusions by the OECD ad hoc group and the outcome of the pilot studies to be conducted by the United States of America and the European Union. It was noted that the pilot studies will evaluate if known endocrine disrupters are identified and/or captured by existing hazard classes. Details of proposed pilot studies and the next steps are mentioned in paragraphs 7 and 8 of informal document INF.22.

## **2. Work on persistence and mobility, persistence and bioaccumulation, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity and hazardous to the terrestrial environment**

Informal document: INF.22 (European Union), paragraphs 9 to 26

30. The Sub-Committee took note of the status of the work under each workstream and agreed to the proposed programme of work for 2025-2026 as contained in paragraphs 9 to 26 of informal document INF.22 (see paragraph 53 and annex III of the present report). It was noted however, that work on immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity and hazardous to the terrestrial environment is not expected to be completed during that period, unless additional resources become available.

## **G. Practical classification issues (proposed amendments to the Globally Harmonized System)**

### **1. Simple asphyxiants**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/18 (United States of America)

31. The Sub-Committee adopted the guidance on hazard communication for simple asphyxiants in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/18, as amended by informal document INF.35, with an additional modification to A11.3.4.2 (b) following discussion during the session (see annex I).

### **2. Tiered approach for classification of mixtures in chapters 3.2 and 3.4**

Informal document: INF.26 (Germany, United States of America)

32. The Sub-Committee took note of the information about the progress of the work of the informal working group on item 4 of its programme of work in paragraphs 2 to 7 of informal document INF.26.

33. Regarding the options proposed in annex I of the informal document to address interpolation within one hazard class/category, the experts who spoke expressed a preference for option 2, while on substantially similar mixtures, they considered that the current text in the GHS should be retained. Some experts indicated that they did not have time to evaluate the proposed options before the session. The expert from Germany welcomed additional feedback in writing from all experts and indicated that the informal working group intended to revise the proposal in the light of the comments received and submit an official document for consideration by the Sub-Committee at its July 2025 session.

## **H. Nanomaterials**

34. As no document had been submitted for discussion this topic was considered under agenda item 5 (see paragraph 54 (c)).



## **I. Hazardous to the atmospheric system**

35. As no document had been submitted for discussion this topic was considered under agenda item 5 (see paragraph 54 (b)).

## **J. Improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and further rationalization of precautionary statements**

Informal document: INF.15 (United Kingdom)

36. The Sub-Committee took note of the progress of the work of the informal working group. The proposed programme of work for the informal working group for 2025-2026 was considered under agenda item 5 (see paragraph 53 and annex III).

## **K. Other matters**

### **1. Proposal for clarification to the aerosol category 3 criteria**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/17 (United States of America)

Informal documents: INF.3 (United States of America)  
INF.6 (United Kingdom, FEA)  
INF.25 (Germany, United Kingdom, United States of America, FEA)  
INF.33, item D (secretariat)

37. The Sub-Committee adopted the amendments to table 2.3.1 of the GHS in informal document INF.25 (see annex I).

### **2. Proposal to amend 4.1.3.6**

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/19 (UNITAR)

38. There was no consensus on the proposed amendments. While some delegations were not convinced by the need to further clarify the existing criteria, others did not agree with the proposal as currently drafted. The representative of UNITAR invited those who provided comments to send them in writing and indicated that he would continue to work intersessionally with interested experts to prepare a revised proposal for consideration by the Sub-Committee at a future session.

### **3. Substances and mixtures that emit flammable vapours and gases**

Informal documents: INF.31 (United States of America)  
INF.33, item D.2 (secretariat)

39. The Sub-Committee welcomed the work on this topic and noted that the experts from China and the United States of America would continue to further develop the proposal with a view to submitting an official document for consideration by the Sub-Committee during the next biennium. Sub-Committee experts were invited to provide feedback on the draft proposal in the annex to informal document INF.31.

### **4. Use of non-animal methods for human systemic toxicity hazard classes**

Informal document: INF.20 (European Union)

40. The Sub-Committee welcomed the information provided and noted the opportunities and challenges in addressing overlaps in systemic toxicity hazard classes and integrating non-animal testing methods into the GHS framework, as highlighted by several experts. At the same time, it emphasized the importance of maintaining scientific rigor, ensuring that any changes to the GHS are supported by robust and validated methodologies and retaining confidence in the current system. In this respect, it noted that work on alternative methods for systemic toxicity need to be further developed before considering how to use them in the GHS context.

41. The representatives of the European Union and of the OECD volunteered to keep the Sub-Committee informed about progress on this topic.

## **IV. Implementation (agenda item 3)**

### **A. Possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the Globally Harmonized System**

Informal document: INF.30 (Canada, United States of America)

42. The Sub-Committee took note of the information about the progress of the work of the informal working group and agreed to the proposed programme of work for the informal working group for 2025-2026 in the annex to informal document INF.30 (see paragraph 53 and annex III of the present report).

### **B. Reports on the status of implementation**

#### **1. Brazil**

43. The Sub-Committee was also informed that on 13 November 2024, Brazil had issued law No.15022,<sup>3</sup> establishing the national inventory of chemical substances and the assessment and risk control of chemical substances used, produced or imported in the national territory with the aim of minimizing adverse impacts on health and the environment. It was noted that the inventory requires hazard classification in accordance with the GHS and that the law will enter into force six months after its publication. It is expected that the law will help consolidating further the adoption of GHS classification in Brazil.

#### **2. Canada**

44. The Sub-Committee was informed that Health Canada had published in 2023 amendments to the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR)<sup>4</sup> to align with the seventh revised edition of the GHS and certain provisions of the eighth revised edition. It was noted that the regulatory amendments provided a 3 year transition period for implementation, ending on 14 December 2025.

#### **3. South Africa**

45. The Sub-Committee was also informed that a review of the chemical regulations for alignment with the tenth revised edition of the GHS was ongoing in South Africa and that a transition period for implementation was foreseen.

#### **4. United States of America**

46. The Sub-Committee was further informed that following the revision to the Hazard Communication Standard published on 20 May 2024<sup>5</sup> to align it with the seventh and eighth revised editions of the GHS, development of related guidance material was ongoing.

### **C. Cooperation with other bodies or international organizations**

47. As no document had been submitted no discussion took place on this topic.

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<sup>3</sup> [https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil\\_03/\\_ato2023-2026/2024/lei/l15022.htm](https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2023-2026/2024/lei/l15022.htm).

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/occupational-health-safety/workplace-hazardous-materials-information-system/amendments-hazardous-products-regulations.html>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-05-20/pdf/2024-08568.pdf>.

**D. Miscellaneous**

48. As no document had been submitted no discussion took place on this topic.

**V. Development of guidance on the application of the Globally Harmonized System (agenda item 4)****A. Practical classification issues**

49. A proposal from the practical classification issues informal working group to address simple asphyxiants in the GHS was considered under agenda item 2 (g) (see paragraph 31).

50. On the development of guidance, the representative of the United States of America indicated that once item 4 of the informal working group program of work had been addressed (see paragraphs 32 and 33 of the present report), the group intended to develop examples illustrating the application of bridging principles.

**B. Practical labelling issues**

51. This topic was addressed under agenda item 5 (see paragraph 54 (d)).

**C. Miscellaneous****Evaluation of binary sensitivity tests**

Informal documents: INF.13 (Germany)  
INF.33, item E (secretariat)

52. The Sub-Committee took note of the information provided by the expert from Germany, who encouraged experts to provide feedback and suggestions for improvement of the evaluation tool referred to in paragraph 2 of informal document INF.13.

**VI. Programme of work for 2025-2026 (agenda item 5)**

Informal documents: INF.14 (United Kingdom)  
INF.29 (United States of America)  
INF.33, item F (secretariat)

53. In addition to the programmes of work adopted during the discussion under other agenda items, on germ cell mutagenicity (INF.19), potential hazard issues (INF.22); use of non-animal methods for classification of health and environmental hazards (INF.24), and the possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS (INF.30), the Sub-Committee agreed to the programme of work in informal documents INF.14 (informal working group on the improvement of annexes 1 to 3) and INF.29 (practical classification issues).

54. In addition, following a review of the status of the activities listed on its programme of work for 2023-2024 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/86, annex III)<sup>6</sup> for which no proposals had been submitted during the biennium, the Sub-Committee decided as follows:

- (a) To keep the work item addressing tests for oxidizing liquids and solids.

The expert from France informed the Sub-Committee that following the analysis of the results of the round robin tests, consensus had been reached on a draft proposal addressing test O.3 (oxidizing solids) that was expected to be finalized and submitted for consideration by the sub-committees in 2025-2026.

<sup>6</sup> <https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/ST-SG-AC10-C4-86E.pdf>.

The Sub-Committee also noted that work related test O.2 (oxidizing liquids) was ongoing.

- (b) To keep the work items on the simultaneous classification in physical hazards and precedence of hazards, and on hazardous to the atmospheric system, to allow the informal working groups to complete the tasks under their work programme.
- (c) To remove the work item on nanomaterials, noting that no documents or information had been provided in the past years and on the understanding that this would not prevent the Sub-Committee from addressing in the future documents on this topic submitted for its consideration.
- (d) To keep the work item on practical labelling issues

Following the announcement by Cefic regarding their unavailability to continue leading the work on this item due to lack of resources, some delegations expressed interest on continuing work on this topic and invited the Sub-Committee to keep it on its programme of work. The Sub-Committee agreed to this request.

55. The Sub-Committee was informed that the TDG Sub-Committee considered a proposal from Australia to address during the biennium 2025-2026, the variations in how flammable liquids are assigned to packing groups/hazard categories in the Model Regulations, the Manual of Tests and Criteria and the GHS. Sub-Committee experts were invited to refer to informal document INF.55 (TDG Sub-Committee fifty-fifth session)<sup>7</sup> for details on the scope of the proposal. It was noted that documents on this topic would be submitted for consideration by both sub-committees.

### **Consolidated programme of work for 2025-2026**

56. Based on the proposals discussed and approved under this and other agenda items during this and previous sessions (see paragraphs 53 to 55), the Sub-Committee adopted its programme of work for 2025-2026 (see annex III).

## **VII. Capacity building (agenda item 6)**

### **A. Swedish Chemicals Agency**

Informal document: INF.8 (Sweden)

57. The Sub-Committee noted the information provided and commended the expert from Sweden on the activities conducted by the Swedish Chemicals Agency to support implementation of the GHS.

### **B. UNITAR**

58. The representative of UNITAR reported on activities related to promotion of GHS implementation, particularly in the light of target B.6 of the Global Framework on Chemicals. These included:

- (a) Ongoing e-learning GHS courses in English, French and Spanish, with the next session expected by March 2025.
- (b) Several guidance and training materials, including the 2024 version of the companion guide to the GHS, videos, presentations and brochures on GHS related topics such as: hazard classification, hazard communication, identification of highly hazardous pesticides or GHS and transport.

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<sup>7</sup> [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2024-11/UN-SCETDG-65-INF55e\\_0.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2024-11/UN-SCETDG-65-INF55e_0.pdf).

- (c) Capacity-building projects and related activities for GHS implementation at national level planned, ongoing or completed in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria.
- (d) Ongoing activities to support development of GHS implementing legislation in Peru, El Salvador and Georgia and planned activities for the development of legislation or national roadmaps in Benin, Moldova, North Macedonia and Pakistan.

59. It was pointed out that a new Trust Fund would be created under the Global Framework on Chemicals that would provide a fruitful avenue for developing countries to access new funding.

## **VIII. Implementation of Agenda 2030, draft resolution 2025/... and work of the Economic and Social Council (agenda item 7)**

### **A. Work of the Sub-Committee in relation to the sustainable development goals during 2023-2024**

Informal documents: INF.10 and INF.28 (secretariat)

60. The Sub-Committee endorsed the summary information provided in informal document INF.10 on its activities during 2023-2024 in relation to the sustainable development goals and the draft infographic as presented in informal document INF.28.

61. The representative of the European Union provided additional details on the contributions of the work of the potential hazard issues informal working group in relation to sustainable development goals 3 (target 3.9), 6 (target 6.3), 9 (target 9.4) and 12 (target 12.4).

### **B. Implementation of Agenda 2030 and work of the Economic and Social Council**

Informal document: INF.18 (secretariat)

62. The Sub-Committee took note of the information regarding the contributions related to the work of the Committee of experts and its sub-committees at the 2023 and 2024 sessions of the Coordination segment of the Council as well as the themes and sustainable development goals that will be reviewed in depth by the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 and 2026.

### **C. Draft resolution 2025/...**

Informal document: INF.17 (secretariat)

63. The Sub-Committee adopted the draft resolution related to its work, to be submitted for consideration by the Committee of Experts at its twelfth session and the Economic and Social Council at its 2025 session (see ST/SG/AC.10/52).

## **IX. Election of officers for 2025-2026 (agenda item 8)**

64. Following the proposals by the United States of America and Germany, the Sub-Committee re-elected Ms. Nina John (Austria) as chairperson and Ms. Janet Carter (United States of America) as vice-chairperson for the period 2025-2026.

## **X. Other business (agenda item 9)**

### **A. Enhancing plenary session engagement**

Informal document: INF.11 (Chair)

65. The Sub-Committee welcomed the options proposed in informal document INF.11 as a thought-starter for discussion. After an exchange of views and preliminary consideration on the feasibility and suitability of some of the options proposed during the discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed to keep this item on its agenda for the next session and invited experts to consider ways to address the concerns and challenges identified during the discussion.

### **B. Meeting dates and submission deadlines for the forty-eighth session**

66. The Sub-Committee was invited to note the meeting dates and document submission deadlines for its forty-eighth session as follows:

- (a) Meeting dates: 7-9 (morning) July 2025
- (b) Deadline for submission of official documents: 11 April 2025 (for documents submitted for consideration by the GHS Sub-Committee only) and 4 April 2025 (for documents submitted for consideration by both sub-committees, i.e. TDG and GHS).

67. It was also noted that a provisional calendar of meetings for the period 2025-2026 had been circulated by the secretariat in document ST/SG/AC.10/51 for consideration by the Committee of Experts at its twelfth session.<sup>8</sup>

### **C. Tributes**

68. The Sub-Committee was informed that Mr. P. Brigandi, who has been participating in the sessions as a member of the delegation of the United States of America since 2007, would retire soon. The Sub-Committee acknowledged his broad technical expertise and knowledge about the GHS and his commitment to achieve consensus and contribute to GHS continuous development and improvement. It also expressed its deep appreciation for his contributions to the work of the Sub-Committee and its informal working groups over the past seventeen years.

69. The Sub-Committee was also informed of the forthcoming retirement of Mr. A. Karjalainen, who has been participating in the sessions of the Sub-Committee as a member of the delegation of the European Union. The Sub-Committee paid tribute to his knowledge and expertise on GHS related matters as well as his dedication and professionalism.

70. The Sub-Committee wished them a long and happy retirement.

## **XI. Adoption of the report (agenda item 10)**

71. In accordance with the established practice, the Sub-Committee adopted the report on its forty-seventh session and its annexes on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

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<sup>8</sup> Available at: <https://unece.org/info/Transport/Dangerous-Goods/events/387249>.

## Annex I

[Original: English and French]

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

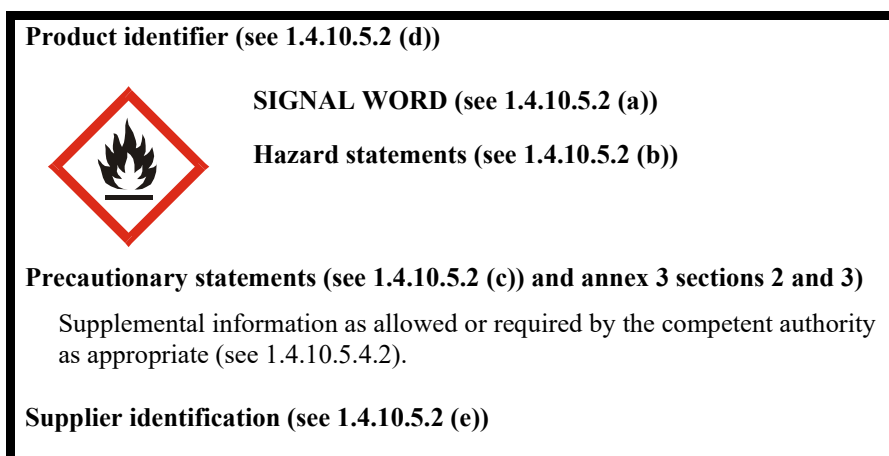
Document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/11, adopted as amended by INF.7 and with an additional correction as follows:

2.3.2.1.2 In the note, delete “*differing from those in 2.3.2.1.2 and the related note*”.

3.4.5.3.2.3.5 In the first sentence:

- Replace “based on a standard animal test (or tests)” by “based on one or more standard animal tests” and
- Replace “(from standard animal test(s) or human data) of a sensitizing ingredient (or ingredients)” by “(from one or more standard animal tests or human data) of at least one sensitizing ingredient”

Annex 7 Replace the label at the bottom of the example with the following:



Document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/14, II. A. (amendments to chapter 2.17), adopted.

Document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/18, adopted as amended by informal document INF.35 as modified in session, as follows:

Replace the new A11.3.4.2 (b) by the following:

“(b) In addition, “Danger” and/or “Store in a well-ventilated place” may also be used.”

#### Chapter 2.3

2.3.1.2.1 In table 2.3.1:

- In the row for category 1, in column “Criteria”: At the end of (b), delete “or”. In (c), insert “aerosol” before “foam flammability test”. In (c) (ii), at the end, replace the full stop by “; or”. Add the following new subparagraph (d):

“(d) Any aerosol that contains > 1 % flammable components (by mass) or with a heat of combustion  $\geq$  20 kJ/g, which has not been tested according to 2.3.1.2.1, third indent.”

- In the row for category 2, in column “Criteria”: In (a), delete “, based on the results of the ignition distance test,”. In (a) (ii), replace “along with” by “and in the ignition distance test,”. In (a) (iii), before “an ignition distance” add “in the ignition distance test,”. In (b), replace “, based on the results of the aerosol foam flammability test, does not meet the criteria for Category 1, and which” by “does not meet the criteria for Category 1 and in the aerosol foam flammability test,”.
- In the row for category 3, in column “Criteria”: Amend sub-paragraph (b) to read:  
“*(b)* Any other aerosol that does not meet the criteria for Category 1 or Category 2.”

Consequential amendment: Delete paragraph 2.3.1.2.2 in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/11.

*(Reference document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/17, as modified by informal document INF.25)*



## Annex II

[Original: English and French]

### **Draft amendments to the eighth revised of the Manual of Tests and Criteria (ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.8)**

#### **Section 51**

51.3.2 Delete sub-paragraphs (a) and (c) and renumber remaining sub-paragraphs accordingly.

*(Reference document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2024/14, II. B.)*

***Note by the secretariat:** For other amendments to section 51 of the Manual see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/130/Add.1)*

## Annex III

### Programme of work for 2025-2026

#### 1. Classification criteria and related hazard communication, including:

- (a) Tests for oxidizing liquids and oxidizing solids

Focal point: TDG Sub-Committee

Terms of reference: informal documents INF.22 (thirty-sixth session), INF.19 (thirty-fifth session) and report of the Sub-Committee on its thirty-sixth and thirty-ninth sessions (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/72, paragraph 19 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/78, paragraph 13). See also paragraph 54 (a) of the present report.

- (b) Use of non-animal methods for classification of health and environmental hazards

Focal points: Kingdom of the Netherlands and United Kingdom

Terms of reference and workplan: informal document INF.24 (forty-seventh session). See also paragraph 53 of the present report.

- (c) Classification criteria for germ cell mutagenicity

Focal point: Informal working group on germ cell mutagenicity (work organised by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission)

Terms of reference and workplan: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2021/3 as amended by informal document INF.24 (fortieth session) and informal document INF.19 (forty-seventh session), paras. 10 to 15. See also paragraph 26 of the present report.

- (d) Practical classification issues

Focal point: United States of America

Terms of reference and workplan: See informal document INF.34 (twenty-fourth session) for the scope of the work and INF.29 (forty-seventh session) for the workplan for 2025-2026. See also paragraph 53 of the present report.

- (e) Simultaneous classification in physical hazard classes and precedence of hazards

Focal point: Germany

Terms of reference: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2018/21, as amended and report of the Sub-Committee on its thirty-sixth session (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/72, paragraph 74). See also informal document INF.12 (forty-seventh session) and paragraph 54 (b) of the present report.

- (f) Potential hazard issues and their presentation in the GHS

Focal point: European Union

Terms of reference and workplan: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2022/18 as amended in informal document INF.39 (forty-third session) and informal document INF.22 (forty-seventh session). See also paragraphs 27 to 30 and 53 of the present report.

#### 2. Other hazard communication matters, including:

- (a) Practical labelling issues

Background document: informal document INF.32 (forty-third session). See also paragraph 54 (b) of the present report.

- (b) Improvement of annexes 1 to 3 and further rationalization of precautionary statements

Focal point: United Kingdom

Terms of reference and workplan: informal document INF.14 (forty-seventh session). See also paragraph 53 of the present report.

- (c) Hazardous to the atmospheric system

Focal point: European Union

Terms of reference and workplan: informal document INF.23 (forty-fifth session). See also paragraph 54 (b) of the present report.

**3. Implementation issues, including:**

- (a) Assessing the possible development of a list of chemicals classified in accordance with the GHS

Focal points: Canada and United States of America

Terms of reference and workplan: informal document INF.30 (forty-seventh session). See also paragraph 42 of the present report.

- (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:**

Development of examples illustrating application of criteria and any related hazard communication issues, as needed.

Focal point: United States of America

Terms of reference/workplan: See informal document INF.34 (twenty-fourth session) for the scope of the work and INF.29 (forty-seventh session) for the workplan for 2025-2026. See also paragraph 53 of the present report.

**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.