

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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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GHS

Transmitted by the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) and
the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

In February 2006, the OECD Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology agreed on the development of a general status report on GHS implementation in the OECD countries. At the meeting of the Task Force on Harmonization of Classification and Labelling, a few participants volunteered to provide comments on the draft questionnaire prepared by the OECD Secretariat.

The UNITAR and OECD Secretariats then agreed to further develop jointly the draft questionnaire in order to cover OECD and non-OECD countries. The results of the survey will be made available to the Sub-Committee of experts on the GHS in due course.

Questionnaire on Preparation for GHS Implementation (*draft*)

29 June 2006

Please send the completed questionnaire by **DEADLINE DATE** by fax or email to:

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WSSD Global Partnership for Capacity Building to Implement the GHS

Background and Instructions for Completing the Questionnaire

The UN Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) is a new tool for chemical hazard classification and communication, incorporating harmonized chemical hazard classification criteria and provisions for standardized labels and safety data sheets. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) encouraged countries to implement the GHS as soon as possible with a view to have the system fully operational by 2008. This survey is addressed to government representatives responsible for chemical hazard classification, communication and GHS implementation. Its purpose is to provide an indication of the status of national/regional preparations for GHS implementation around the world. It has been distributed by the OECD and UNITAR in support of the WSSD Global Partnership for Capacity Building to Implement the GHS.

The responses from OECD countries will be compiled into a status report which will provide an opportunity for those countries to exchange information and experience on GHS implementation. Information from non-OECD countries will be analysed by UNITAR to assess the needs for capacity-building activities in countries which may show difficulties in meeting the 2008 recommended target deadline for GHS implementation. Information from both OECD and non-OECD countries will also be transmitted to the secretariat of the United Nations Economic and Social Council's Sub-Committee of experts on the GHS for updating the GHS implementation website as deemed appropriate, at:

http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/implementation_e.html

Countries may wish to note that, upon implementation of the GHS, information and updates may be provided directly to the UN secretariat via e-mail to: ghs_implementation@unece.org whenever deemed appropriate and relevant."

Instructions

Please complete this questionnaire in consultation with relevant government agencies at the national/regional level in the sectors most concerned with GHS implementation.

The questionnaire consists of two parts. Part 1 should be completed by all countries. Part 2 is designed specifically for countries who may wish to seek the support of UNITAR/ILO in building capacities for GHS implementation (mostly non-OECD countries). * Developing countries that have not yet started the process of GHS implementation are suggested to reply only to questions 1, 2, 11, 12 and 13.*

OECD countries and non-OECD countries should send the completed survey by **DEADLINE DATE** to the OECD and UNITAR respectively to the contact information found at the front of this survey.

General Information

Country: _____ **date:** _____

Contact Details:

Name (First and Last): _____

Professional Title: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

PART 1 (All Countries)

Implementation

1. Please check boxes for the following activities you have **completed** for GHS implementation. If you are **planning** these activities, please enter the planned date:

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Situation and Gap Analysis	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Comprehensibility Testing	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Impact Study and/or Cost Benefit Analysis	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	First Draft of the Implementation Instrument ¹	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultation with Stakeholders	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Development of a National Implementation strategy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Final Adoption of the Implementation Instrument	_____

2. Please indicate the **sectors** within which your country will implement the GHS:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Transport (i.e. via implementation of the UN Recommendations on the TDG)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial / Workplace
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consumer Products
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture / Pesticides ² (please specify): _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others ³ (please specify): _____

3. **Precise name of the Implementation Instrument**¹: _____

Government department/agency responsible for the instrument: _____

If different instruments and government departments cover different sectors, please complete the table below:

	Implementation instrument	Government Department
Transport		
Industrial / Workplace		
Consumer Products		
Agriculture/ Pesticides ²		
Others ³		

¹ Examples of Implementation Instruments are laws, directives or regulations.

² Not already included in industrial/workplace or consumer products.

³ Not already included in other sectors.

4. Information related to the implementation instrument. Please check the boxes for each sector covered by the GHS:

Implementation Instrument	Transport	Industrial / Workplace	Consumer Products	Agriculture / Pesticides ²	Others ³
Voluntary					
Legally binding					
One instrument					
Several instruments					
New instrument					
Revision of existing instruments					
Specific provisions to facilitate updates					
Non-compliance: provisions for control/sanctions					
Implement the GHS First Edition (2003)					
Implement the GHS First Revised Edition (2005)					

5. Entry into force of the implementation instrument:

(Planned) date of entry into force : _____

If different dates are planned for different sectors please indicate in the table:

Sector:	Transport	Industrial Workplace	Consumer Products	Agriculture/ Pesticides ²	Others ³
Date:					

Is there a planned transitional period for GHS implementation?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please describe (e.g. for a specific sector; substances, then mixtures; certain substances, then others; timing of phase in periods, etc.):

GHS Coverage

6. Please indicate the sectors that are not covered by the GHS

- Transport (i.e. the UN Recommendations on the TDG)
- Industrial / Workplace
- Consumer Products
- Agriculture / Pesticides² (please specify): _____
- Others³ (please specify): _____

7. Will all GHS hazard classes be implemented for the sectors that will be covered?

- Yes
- No

If not, indicate in the table below, for each relevant sector, the hazard classes (e.g. reproductive toxicity) that are **not** covered⁴:

Transport	Industrial Workplace	Consumer Products	Agriculture/ Pesticides ²	Others ³

8. Will all GHS categories be implemented for the hazard classes that will be covered?

- Yes
- No

If not, indicate in the table below for each relevant sector, the relevant hazard class (e.g. acute toxicity) in the first column, and the categories (e.g.: 4, 5) that are **not** covered⁵ in the sector columns:

Transport	Industrial Workplace	Consumer Products	Agriculture/ Pesticides ²	Others ³

Other information

9. Please indicate any specific problems that you have or had in implementing the GHS:

10. Please provide Website addresses where additional information can be found:

⁴ When the non-covered classes are not explicitly mentioned in the GHS for a specific sector, please add rows to the table.

⁵ Only when the non-covered categories are not explicitly mentioned in the GHS for a specific sector.

PART 2 (Non-OECD Countries Only)

11. Are there existing national chemical classification and hazard communication systems in place?

- Yes
 No

If yes, which sectors (e.g. transport, consumer products, etc):

12. What are the obstacles to implementation of the GHS in your country? Please rank the items below (1 being the biggest obstacle and 5 being the smallest obstacle).

- Lack of awareness of GHS
 Lack of resources / capacity
 Low priority
 GHS not required
 Other (please specify): _____

13. Would your country be interested in capacity building support for GHS implementation from UNITAR/ILO?

- Yes
 No