UNITED NATIONS **ST**

Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2009/8
27 July 2009

Original: ENGLISH

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

Eighteenth session
Geneva, 9 - 11 December 2009
Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

UPDATING OF THE THIRD REVISED EDITION OF THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

Physical hazards

Correction to the criterion for flammability of gas mixtures in 2.2.5

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)[1]

Introduction

1. EIGA is working on the implementation of the GHS in Europe and spotted a small mistake in the criterion for the flammability of gas mixtures in 2.2.5, which currently reads:

$$\sum_{i}^{n} \frac{V_i \%}{T_{ci}} \geq 1$$

[1] In accordance with ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/34, paragraph 16.

2. This criterion has been derived from the criterion in ISO 10156 for a gas mixture to be considered as non-flammable, into a criterion for a gas mixture to be considered flammable but without adjusting the "greater than or equal to" symbol.

$$\sum_{i}^{n} \frac{A_i'}{T_{ci}} \times 100 \leq 1$$

3. The way the criterion for flammability is expressed in 2.2.5 is also in contradiction with the definition of T_{ci} in the same section, which reads:

> "the maximum concentration of a flammable gas in nitrogen at which the mixture is still not flammable in air"

Proposal

4. EIGA proposes the following correction:

In 2.2.5, under "Criterion", *for* $\sum_{i}^{n} \frac{V_i\%}{T_{ci}} \geq 1$ *read* $\sum_{i}^{n} \frac{V_i\%}{T_{ci}} > 1$
