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

2 July 2010

Nineteenth session

Geneva, 30 June–2 July 2010 Item 3 of the provisional agenda Hazard communication issues

Revised terms of reference for the revision of Section 9 of Annex 4 of the GHS

Proposal by the expert from Germany, as amended by the expert from the United States of America

Scope: Physical and chemical properties in the SDS.

Task: Revision of Section 9 of Annex 4 of the GHS:

- Review section 9 of Annex 4 to ensure that all physical and chemical properties necessary for the classification under all hazard classes and categories of the GHS are captured;
- Review section 9 of Annex 4 with regard to a clear structure for physical/chemical properties, to ensure that all data necessary for hazard communication and handling of substances will be retained;
- Review section 9 with regard to a structure clearly distinguishing between physical/ chemical properties and physical hazards defined in the GHS

Course of action: All delegations that are interested in participating in the correspondence group and want to contribute to the revision are asked to express their interest either during the meeting or by e-mail. The expert from Germany will produce a first draft that is supposed to serve as starter of the work and will send it to the respective experts. The correspondence group is supposed to work mainly by e-mail and may meet as a lunchtime informal working group during the Sub-Committee's meetings.

Schedule: Since in this biennium only one further meeting (in December 2010) is left, the work will most likely continue during the next biennium. A proposal for the revision of Section 9 of Annex 4 of the GHS is to be presented at the latest in December 2012.

