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INFORMATION PAPER

(Transmitted by the Chairman)

SUMMARY REPORT ON THE 10th MEETING OF THE OECD TASK FORCE ON HARMONISATION OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

The meeting took place in Paris, France, at the OECD Headquarters, from 6 to 8 September 2000.

After the approval of the agenda and of the report of the previous meeting, the results of the 7th meeting of the Extended Expert Group on Aquatic Environmental Hazards were discussed.

It was noted that the Guidance Document was generally agreed in principle, but still some details need to be checked on Chapter 1-6, while in relation to Chapter 7 (Classification of Metals and Metals Compounds) more work is necessary.

It was also noted that the Expert Group was unable to reach a consensus on the Classification Criteria for Mixtures Hazardous to the Aquatic Environment.

It was finally recognized that further work is necessary and it was envisaged that the completion of the work will not be achieved before some months.

After having discussed the Classification of Substances causing Target Organ/Systemic Toxicity, the meeting discussed the proposal for Harmonised Classication Criteria for Chemical Mixtures.

With regard to Acute Toxicity, after a lenghty discussion, it was finally agreed to classify the mixtures, when the relevant data are available, on the basis of a formula, as in the UN Recommendations.

With regard to Corrosivity and Aquatic Environmental Hazards, the proposed approach is mainly based on the reference to cut-off values but some work is still needed.

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