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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

Thirteenth session Geneva, 9-11 July 2007 Item 3 of the provisional agenda

DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Hazard communication issues

Labelling of very small packagings

Transmitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)

Background

1. At the eleventh session of the Sub-Committee, CEFIC came forward with a proposal concerning the labelling of very small packagings for consideration in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2006/12. Subsequent discussions concluded that there was general support for the development of guidance on labelling of very small packagings. However, the Sub-Committee felt that the proposal put forward by CEFIC should be further developed and it was agreed that this issue be considered for the program of work for the next biennium.

Progress report

- 2. As agreed at the twelfth session, an inter-sessional correspondence working group has been set up comprising experts from Brazil, Canada, Germany, Romania, European Commission, AISE, CEFIC, IPPIC and SDA.
- 3. A draft revised proposal was circulated within the inter-sessional correspondence working group for comment in March. An analysis of the small number of responses received back from members indicated that there are differing views as to what should be regarded as a very small packaging.
- 4. Work is ongoing to reach a common agreement on what constitutes a very small packaging and some other points highlighted in the draft revised proposal (e.g. the minimum size of pictograms and the order of precedence for label information) with a view to bringing forward a revised proposal to the Sub-Committee for consideration at its fourteenth session.