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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

Twenty-second session

Geneva, 7–9 December 2011 Item 2 (e) of the provisional agenda

Updating of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS): miscellaneous proposals

Correction to paragraph 1.3.2.4.6

Note by the secretariat¹

I. Background

- 1. At its twenty-first session, the Sub-Committee adopted a correction to paragraph 1.3.2.4.6. The adopted text was reproduced in the annex to the report (document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/42).
- 2. During the discussion, some experts proposed additional corrections to that paragraph but the Sub-Committee concluded that more time was needed to consider their implications and requested the secretariat to prepare a formal document for the twenty-second session.

II. Proposal

3. Amend the last sentence in 1.3.2.4.6 as follows:

"1.3.2.4.6 Animal welfare

The welfare of experimental animals is a concern. This ethical concern includes not only the alleviation of stress and suffering but also, in some countries, the use and consumption of test animals. Where possible and appropriate, tests and experiments that do not require the use of live animals are preferred to those using sentient live experimental animals. To

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¹ In accordance with ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/42, paragraph 24.

that end, for certain hazards, non-animal observations/measurements are included as part of the classification system. For other hazards, such as acute toxicity, Additionally, alternative animal tests, using fewer animals or causing less suffering are internationally accepted and should be preferred to the conventional LD50 test."

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