



MINUTES OF THE SADC GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEMS (GHS) WORKSHOP.

Venue: Hotel 224
Date: 20-21 January 2011
Time: 09:00 – 16:00

1.	<p>OPENING AND WELCOME</p> <p>The SADC TRLC Chairperson (Zimbabwe- Mr Petros Ndanga) welcomed all the participants.</p>
2.	<p>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA</p> <p>The Agenda was accepted with no additional items.</p>
3.	<p>OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To finalise a Policy Proposal on SADC GHS and submit to the SADC Secretariat for approval and forward to the relevant Ministries in all SADC Countries • To develop a Model Regulation that will serve as an Annex to the Policy paper • To have an agreement from the regulators (per country) on the used of harmonised SADC GHS standards text which will be adopted as national standards and which is in line with the UN GHS version one as the technical basis for their regulations • The regulators to start a process of developing regulations taking into consideration the time frames, the consensus process and comment process <p>The task of the SADC GHS working group is to prepare for the SADC GHS Workshop. The working group developed the following for the workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agenda - Draft policy paper - Draft model regulations - Presentations regarding the background, policy proposal and the SADC GHS standards process

	<p>DISCUSSION</p> <p>All the member states were given an opportunity to present about the progress and challenges experienced with regard to the GHS work. Some of the member countries did not have an electronic presentations and a decision was reached that those who did not present will send their progress report to the SADC TRLC Secretariat by end of February 2011.</p> <p>A presentation regarding the draft policy paper and the draft model regulations were done and the reason why GHS work is important for the SADC TRLC. Members were also given the opportunity to discuss and present their inputs to the draft documents.</p>
4.	<p>COMMENTS</p> <p>POLICY PROPOSAL COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include a table of contents paper • Include a separate page to describe the abbreviations and acronyms • Include and refer to the SAICM agreement • Describe the references clearly • Change the title to Proposal Policy for the use and implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and labelling of Chemicals in SADC • Regroup and rearrange the text • Policy paper must clearly outline or describe the backgroup and history of the GHS and the importance of GHS • Editorial changes in some of the paragraphs and rearrange the numberings • Include and clearly describe data on chemical volumes • Paragraph 2 to read “Aim of the Policy” • The background information should be a stand alone document supporting the policy <p>MODEL REGULATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be generic, clear and in line with the regulation • Rearrange numberings • Create section 2.8 to cover environment • Clarification on the resolution or disputes • Use the word “Shall” instead of “May” • Editorial changes in some of the wordings <p>EXPERT GROUP ESTABLISHED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seychelles _ Mr Allen ✓ Zambial – Mr K Chivunda ✓ Zimbabwe – Mr R Dliwayo ✓ South Africa – Mr R. Sadiki ✓ SADC GHS Working Group ✓ SADC TRLC Secretariat
5.	<p>WORKSHOP ARRANGEMENTS FEEDBACK</p> <p>All SADC member countries were invited. The workshop was sponsored by the dti, South Africa and PTB. The invitation was for Government representatives responsible for Occupational Health and Safety and Transport.</p> <p>All countries responded except Angola and Tanzania . A total number of 40 people attended the</p>

	<p>workshop. .</p> <p>The workshop was held at Hotel 224, Schoeman Street, Pretoria.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>WAY FORWARD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member state to arrange public awareness activities and consultation sessions • Member states to plan and implement National GHS trainings in collaboration with SADC TRLC • Established a SADC GHS Expert group to work with the SADC GHS Working group to develop the SADC GHS Draft Policy • A need to develop Regional Implementation Strategy by 2012 and the National Implementation Strategies • The proposed policy paper has to conform to a standard format of a Policy • SADC Secretariat to assist with Policy development template or the expert group should refer to ISO 90001, ISO 14001, OHAS 18001 • SADC Secretariat to submit a template to SADC TRLC Secretariat and circulate to the SADC GHS Expert group by end of February 2011 • The expert group will use the wording used in the proposed policy paper • The Expert working group to submit a SADC GHS Draft Policy to SADC TRLC by end of March 2011 and forward to all the SADC GHS workshop attendees for comment • The comment period for all is 3 months, that is by June the comments should reach the SADC TRLC Secretariat • SADC TRLC to incorporate the comments and produce draft 2 of the SADC Policy • SADC TRLC to secure funding for the next SADC GHS working group meeting and the Orange House/ Unitar Partnership in SA conference that will take place in Durban, in March 2011 as a training session.
<p>8.</p>	<p>Closure</p>