



SADC TECHNICAL REGULATIONS LIASON COMMITTEE

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**SADC TECHNICAL REGULATIONS LIASON
COMMETTEE (SADCTRLC)
REPORT FOR 2010/11**

1. SADCTRLC AWARENESS WORKSHOP

The SADCTRLC and SADCTBTSC had an awareness workshop that was held on 25/26 August 2010 in Gaborone. The workshop was arranged by the SADC Secretariat. Twenty four delegates from SADC countries participated in the workshop.

The aim of the workshop was to allow member states to report on their progress in developing national supporting structures or arrangements for the SADCTRLC and SADCTBTSC, to discuss possible future projects for funding at SADC level, and the operational functions of the two committees.

The key Workshop Resolutions included:

- Identify relevant regulatory departments, regulatory agencies and relevant stakeholders in each country
- Consultation and cooperation with stakeholders with regard to technical regulations to be harmonized
- Establishment of the SADCTRLC national structures
- Development of the standard template for national reports to the SADCTRLC
- Minimum of 4 meetings of the SADCTRLC ExCo and SADCTRLC members
- Align the SADCTRLC work with other SQAM Structures
- Development of guidelines for consultation, impact and risk assessment
- Identification of possible national projects
- Development of SADCTRLC website to form part of SADC website
- Create brochures, newsletters, banners, letterheads and business cards for ExCo members

2. FIRST MEETING OF THE SADC GHS WORKING GROUP

The SADC GHS working group (WG) established by the SADCTRLC met on 17-18 January 2011 in South Africa, Pretoria. The WG meeting was cosponsored by **the dti** (South Africa) and PTB. The WG consisted of the SADCTRLC Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Regional Coordinator and the Secretariat, SADCSTAN Representatives and an Industry Specialist.

The task of the working group was to:

- To develop a draft policy paper on GHS
- To develop a draft model regulations
- To prepare for the SADC GHS Workshop by developing an agenda for the GHS workshop and prepare all the necessary documents needed for the workshop.
- To develop presentations outlining the background information on GHS work, policy proposal and the SADC GHS standards process

3. SADC GHS WORKSHOP

The SADCTRLC hosted a workshop on SADC Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) on 20-21 January 2011 in South Africa, Pretoria. The workshop was cosponsored by PTB and **the dti**, South Africa. A total number of 40 delegates from 13 SADC countries attended the workshop. Angola and Tanzania did not attend. The delegates were government representatives responsible for the Occupational Health and Safety and Transport.

The aim of the workshop was to table a draft SADC policy proposal for the use and implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) in regulations for occupational health and safety and transport in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

3.1 Proceedings

During day one, introductory presentations were given by the SADCTRLC Chairperson, Mr Petos Ndanga (Zimbabwe), SADCTRLC Regional Coordinator, Dr. Elsabe Steyn (South Africa), SADCSTAN Representative, Ms Belinda Kancheya (Zambia).

The following presentations were made by the SADC GHS Working Group;

- Background to the use and implementation of the GHS in SADC
- The draft policy proposal for the use and implementation of the globally harmonised system of classification and labeling of chemicals (GHS) in regulations for occupational health and safety and transport in the Southern Africa Development Community
- Draft GHS model regulations

All member states were given the opportunity to present national GHS progress and challenges experienced with regard to the GHS implementation in their countries. Member countries that did not have an electronic presentation and were requested to forward their progress report to the SADCTRLC Secretariat. Members were also given the opportunity to discuss and present their inputs to the draft documents.

3.2 Key workshop recommendations

- Member states to arrange public awareness activities and consultation sessions
- Member states to develop the National GHS Implementation Strategies
- Member states to plan and implement National GHS trainings
- Extend the SADC GHS Working Group with SADC GHS Experts to finalise the SADC GHS Policy Proposal that will be forwarded to relevant ministries for approval. The extended experts are from Seychelles, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The Extended SADC GHS Working Group meeting is planned for the 2nd Quarter of 2011.

4. CONCLUSION

The SADC TRLC has managed to achieve some of the activities planned for the year 2010/11 in terms of the development of a SADCTRLC Logo, the development of a draft policy proposal on GHS and the hosting of the SADC GHS Workshop and the development of reporting templates for member states.