



**REPORT ON SADC TECHNICAL REGULATIONS LIASON COMMITTEE
(SADCTRLC) WORKSHOP FOR GLOBALLY HARMONIZED
SYSTEMS (GHS)**

**SOUTH AFRICA, PRETORIA
20 -21 JANUARY 2011**

**REPORT ON SADCTRLC WORKSHOP FOR GHS
SOUTH AFRICA, PRETORIA
20-21 AUGUST 2010**

The SADCTRLC Workshop was held on 20-21 January 2011 at the Hotel 224, Pretoria. A total number of 40 delegates from 13 SADC countries attended the workshop except for Angola and Tanzania. The invitation was for government representatives responsible for the Occupational Health and Safety and the Ministry for Transport. The SADCTRLC Secretariat coordinated the workshop and facilitated by the SADC GHS working group established on the 17 January 2011.

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 about the progress and challenges experienced with regard to the GHS implementation in their countries. Member countries that did not have an electronic presentation 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.

During the workshop all presentations included the status and challenges faced with regard to the GHS work per member state. There were good participatory interventions from the group and issues raised included the following:

(i) POLICY PROPOSAL COMMENTS

- 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 background 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

(ii) MODEL REGULATION

- 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

WORKSHOP RESOLUTIONS

- Member states to arrange public awareness activities and consultation sessions
- Members 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.

The extended SADC GHS WG members are:

- ✓ Seychelles _ Mr Allen S de L’Etourdie
 - ✓ Zambia – Mr K Chivunda
 - ✓ Zimbabwe – Mr R Dliwayo
 - ✓ South Africa – Mr R. Sadiki
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- SADC TRLC to monitor progress with national implementation
 - The proposed policy paper has to conform to the SADC standard format for policies. SADC Secretariat to assist with policy template by end of February 2011
 - The SADC GHS extended Working Group to finalise draft 2 of SADC GHS Policy proposal 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 2011 the comments should reach the SADC TRLC Secretariat
 - SADC TRLC to incorporate the comments and produce the final policy proposal for submission to the Ministers of Trade and Industry.
 - SADC TRLC requested to assist to secure funding for the next SADC GHS working group meeting and the GHS training that may take place in Gauteng in March 2011.

WAY FORWARD

The workshop attendees agreed that a follow up meeting consisting of the SADC GHS Working Group and the SADC GHS Expert Group is needed to finalise the SADC GHS Policy Paper.

ANNEXURE DOCUMENT IS INCLUDED - ATTENDANCE REGISTER OF PARTICIPANTS