UNITAR/ILO GHS Training and Capacity Building Programme

February 2006 - Update

The UNITAR/ILO Programme supports national and regional capacity building activities to implement the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) through cooperation of government, business and industry, and public interest and labour organizations. UNITAR/ILO are the focal point for capacity building in the UN ECOSOC GHS Subcommittee. In 2006, activities are implemented with support from the Government of Switzerland and the European Union.

2006 Activities

National GHS capacity building projects:

- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- Laos
- Thailand
- Philippines
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Slovenia
- The Gambia

Regional capacity building projects:

- Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Southern African Development Community (SADC)

Guidance, Training and Resource Documents and Supporting Activities

Available:

- Developing a National GHS Implementation Strategy, Pilot Edition, August 2005
- Manual for Rapid Comprehensibility Testing of the GHS (UNITAR/UCT), 2005 Edition

In preparation:

- Development of GHS Legal Implementation Strategies
- Training modules on (1) classifying chemicals, (2) preparing chemical hazard communication tools, and (3) communicating hazards to end users
- Strengthening the role of public interest and labour organizations in GHS implementation

Supporting activities and services:

- Global Thematic Workshop on Strengthening Capacities to Implement the GHS, 15-18 Nov 2005, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Reports of Regional Workshops (SADC 2003, South America 2004, ASEAN 2005)
- GHS capacity building library online and in CD ROM format
- Secretariat for the UNITAR/ILO/OECD WSSD GHS Partnership

How to Request Support

Countries interested in participating in a GHS capacity building project should communicate this in writing to UNITAR. A commitment to a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder process is important. UNITAR will explore opportunities for support and funding with potential donors.

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