Stakeholders' Information Needs on Chemicals in Articles/Products

IFCS Contribution and Supporting Work

Dr Judy A. Stober, Executive Secretary, IFCS

Since its establishment in 1994 the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety has given priority to work to address information needs for the sound management of chemicals - particularly the special information needs of developing countries and countries in economic transition. The IFCS has recognized that more work needs to be done to ensure that information needs of developing countries are being met, including identifying what information is needed and determining the most effective and efficient means of getting the information to those who need it. When effectively managed, information exchange can provide a sound basis for work in all aspects of chemical safety. This has been promoted by the IFCS through various means. IFCS participants have considered a range of issues such as generation of information, increasing information flows and access to information. Specific information needs in a number of areas have also been considered and recommendations for actions by various stakeholders agreed. This presentation will provide an overview of IFCS efforts that contribute to and support stakeholders' information needs on chemicals in article/products.