



Stakeholders' Information Needs on Chemicals in Articles/Products

IFCS Contribution and Supporting Work

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Dr Judy A Stober
Executive Secretary, IFCS
Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical
Safety
Global Partnerships for Chemical Safety



Information Right-to-Know

➔ Informed choices/decisions

➔ Reduced risk




IFCS Priorities for Action



strengthening of the community "right to know"
...important facet in increasing chemical safety (1994, 2000)

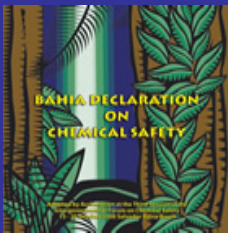
Manufacturers, importers, formulators and industrial users should have the main but differentiated responsibility for generating and assessing data, as well as providing adequate and reliable information to users, governments and the public on the safety and safe use of their products for that part of the life cycle to which they contribute

3



Bahia Declaration

Increasing access to information, knowledge, and skills development in chemical safety, recognizing that communities have a right-to-know about chemicals in the environment and to participate meaningfully in decisions about chemical safety that affect them



4



IFCS Priorities for Action

Programme area C: Information exchange on toxic chemicals and chemical risks (1994)

2. Both the types of information exchanged and the methods of effecting the exchange should be tailored to meet the needs of major groups of users, taking due account of different languages and literacy levels.

Programme Area D: Establishment of risk reduction programmes (2000)

9. Governments and industry should consider, subject to domestic regulatory requirements, or as provided for in international agreements, **granting the public's right-to-know the chemical constituents of consumer products**, at least on a qualitative basis, in order to enable them to make informed consumer choices.

5



Forum IV generation, assessment & accessibility of hazard data

identified a need to ensure good exchange of information along the product chain from chemicals to end use products

6

Toys and Chemical Safety



Forum V Plenary Discussion Session
27 September 2006
Budapest, Hungary

Photo Credit: NASA

7

Definition and Scope

- **TOY:** any product or material designed or clearly intended for **use in play** by children (0-9 years of age) or adolescents (10-18 years of age)
 - Large international manufacturers
 - Small, local, cottage industry



Photo Credit: WHO 8

Toys and Chemical Safety



Photo Credit: NASA

Most often chemical content of toys is not readily available

Can not be assumed that toy manufacturers know the exact chemical content of all the components of their products

- *pre-manufactured parts*
- *chemicals supplied in mixtures .. meet performance specifications*
- *batch to batch variation, market forces*

9

Toys and Chemical Safety



Photo Credit: NASA



Photo Credit: WHO

Chemical Categories of Potential Concern for Toys

Metals (eg lead, mercury, cadmium)

Plasticisers/softeners (eg phthalates)

Musks, fragrances, and allergens

Glues, solvents, fuels

Lacquers, paints, varnishes, colourants

Antioxidants, antimicrobials, pesticides, flame retardants, stabilisers

Other chemical additives and/or contaminants

10

Toys and Chemical Safety



Photo Credit: WHO

Toy Categories to Consider for Potential Chemical Hazards (Examples)

Chew Toys

(including pacifiers, teethers)

Toy Cosmetics and Jewelry

Arts and crafts and learning materials

Crayons, pencils, pens, markers, paints, glazes

Clays and molding materials, playdough, plaster of Paris

Model sets (cars, airplanes, boats, figurines)

Chemistry sets

Cap tapes for gun toys

Toys powered by batteries

Toys containing liquids

Toys with plastic sections of components

Toys made of textiles, stuffed toys

Playground equipment

surface materials (rubber, sand, wood chips)

wood and surface treatments and paints (CCA-treatment, lead paint)

lead used to line playing fields

Second-hand toys, Hand-me-down old, unlabeled, unsafe toys

11

Toys and Chemical Safety



Photo Credit: NASA

Forum recommendations to fill information gaps.....

Governments, toy manufacturers, retailers, consumer groups, other stakeholders:

- ✓ determination and documentation of the chemical content of toys
- ✓ identify chemicals of concern used in toys, and potential substitution options
- ✓ develop strategies for sharing information on chemicals commonly used in toys and adverse effects from their use
- ✓ encourage countries and regions to develop and share the results of surveillance of chemical content of toys with other countries and all stakeholders

12

Nanotechnology and Manufactured Nanomaterials: Opportunities and Challenges

Dakar Statement on Manufactured Nanomaterials

Preamble

10. In order to strive to achieve the minimization of risks of manufactured nanomaterials, the rights of countries to accept or reject manufactured nanomaterials was recognized.

The Forum recommends:

18. Producers to provide appropriate information about the content of manufactured nanomaterials in order to inform consumers about potential risks through product labeling and, as appropriate, websites and databases.

Substitution and alternatives

Defining substitution as the replacement or reduction of hazardous substances in products and processes by less hazardous or non-hazardous substances, or by achieving an equivalent functionality via technological or organizational measures, including the use of traditional low- and non-chemical practices,

1 of the objectives of the session

- To develop risk management strategies involving all stakeholders of the production- and use-chain of a chemical, mainly producers and users of a chemical and the users of the final product containing the chemical.***

The users of a final product are often the most important partners, because they know best, which alternatives render an adequate service and what advantages and disadvantages they have.

Dakar Recommendations on Substitution and alternatives

numerous element directly links to "chemicals in products" issue....

8. For governments and international organizations to promote publicly accessible systems for collecting information on chemical uses through supply chains, including substances in articles;
14. For governments, international organizations and industry to effectively engage product manufacturers and retailers and their supply chains in dialogue about development and application of safer alternatives at a global level;



Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety
Global Partnerships for Chemical Safety

Partnerships to develop innovative solutions

for more information ... www.ifcs.ch