



# The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)

NAFTA Stakeholder Meeting  
December, 2003



Health Canada  
Pest Management Regulatory Agency

Santé Canada  
Agence de réglementation de la lutte antiparasitaire



# ***GHS Overview***

- **Harmonized criteria for classifying substances and mixtures according to their health, environmental and physical hazards**
- **Harmonized hazard communication elements, including requirements for labelling and safety data sheets**



# ***GHS Overview – cont'd***

- **All chemicals affected**
- **Symbols will change**
- **Criteria for triggering symbols & signal words will change**



# ***GHS Update***

## **CANADA:**

- **Situational Analysis document**
- **GHS workshop October 15 with all sectors**
- **Pesticides Sectoral Working Group being formed**  
– representation from wide range of stakeholders

## **UNITED STATES:**

- **Government lead for GHS being determined; EPA assessing implications for pesticides**

## **MEXICO:**

- **Government lead for GHS being determined; COFEPRIS assessing implications for pesticides**



# ***Some GHS Implementation Issues - Pesticides***

- **Harmonization/Coordination**
- **Resources (Industry & Gov't)**
- **Implementation mechanism & timing**
- **Need for Education**
- **Consultation process**
- **Classification criteria**



## ***NAFTA Involvement***

- **Three governments prepared to collaborate; beginning to explore full implications of GHS for pesticides, from a regulatory perspective**
- **Question for stakeholders: Seek your input on the NAFTA approach. How should we collaborate on GHS?**



# *Question for Stakeholders*



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<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla>



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