

Strengthening Implementation of GHS: Challenges, Successes, and the Way Forward

Date: Tuesday 24th June, 2025

Time: 13:00 – 13:45

Modality: In-person only

UNEP in collaboration with the European Commission, Global Alliance to Implement GHS and UNITAR

Background

The introduction of the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC) brings together the global community to work towards the objectives and targets of the framework. GHS has been highlighted as a priority under the GFC. [Target B6](#) under strategic objective B stipulates that “by 2030, all Governments have implemented the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) in all relevant sectors as appropriate for their national circumstances.”

The first session of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG 1) of the GFC presents a valuable opportunity for key stakeholders to engage in discussions on strengthening legislation and regulatory frameworks.

This side event on GHS aims to provide a platform for countries, industry experts and other stakeholder to share their experiences in integrating the GHS into their legislation and on implementing GHS. The session will focus on lessons learned, challenges encountered, and effective solutions that can inform broader policy and legislative initiatives. The event will also seek to invite governments outside of the Africa region who have had similar work on GHS Pilot project in Africa as they work towards the completion of their project implementation.

Expected outcomes:

- Facilitate knowledge exchange on GHS implementation across different contexts.
- Identify key challenges and creative solutions to GHS adoption and implementation, including out of the box experiences in GHS Implementation.

- Highlight lessons learned, particularly in multi-stakeholder engagement and legislative strengthening, and encourage south-south knowledge-sharing that can inform policy development, capacity building, and future cooperation.
- Support countries and organizations in aligning GHS efforts with broader goals like the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC) and the SDGs.

Agenda

Time	Program
Event Moderator: Ludovic Bernaudat, UNEP	
14:00 - 14:05	Opening Remarks Juergen Helbig, European Commission
14:05 - 14:10	Scene Setting Bob Diedrich, OECD/Global partnership to implement the GHS
14:10 - 14:30	Expert Panel Discussion <u>Discussion moderator</u> Oliver Wootton, UNITAR <u>Panellists</u> Amos Ishaya Elma, Nigeria Camila Hubner Barcellos, Abiquim - Brazilian Chemical Industry Association Sonia Kathleen Farro Rios, Peru
14:30 - 14:40	Question and Answers
14:40 - 14:45	Closing Remarks UNEP/Ludovic Bernaudat