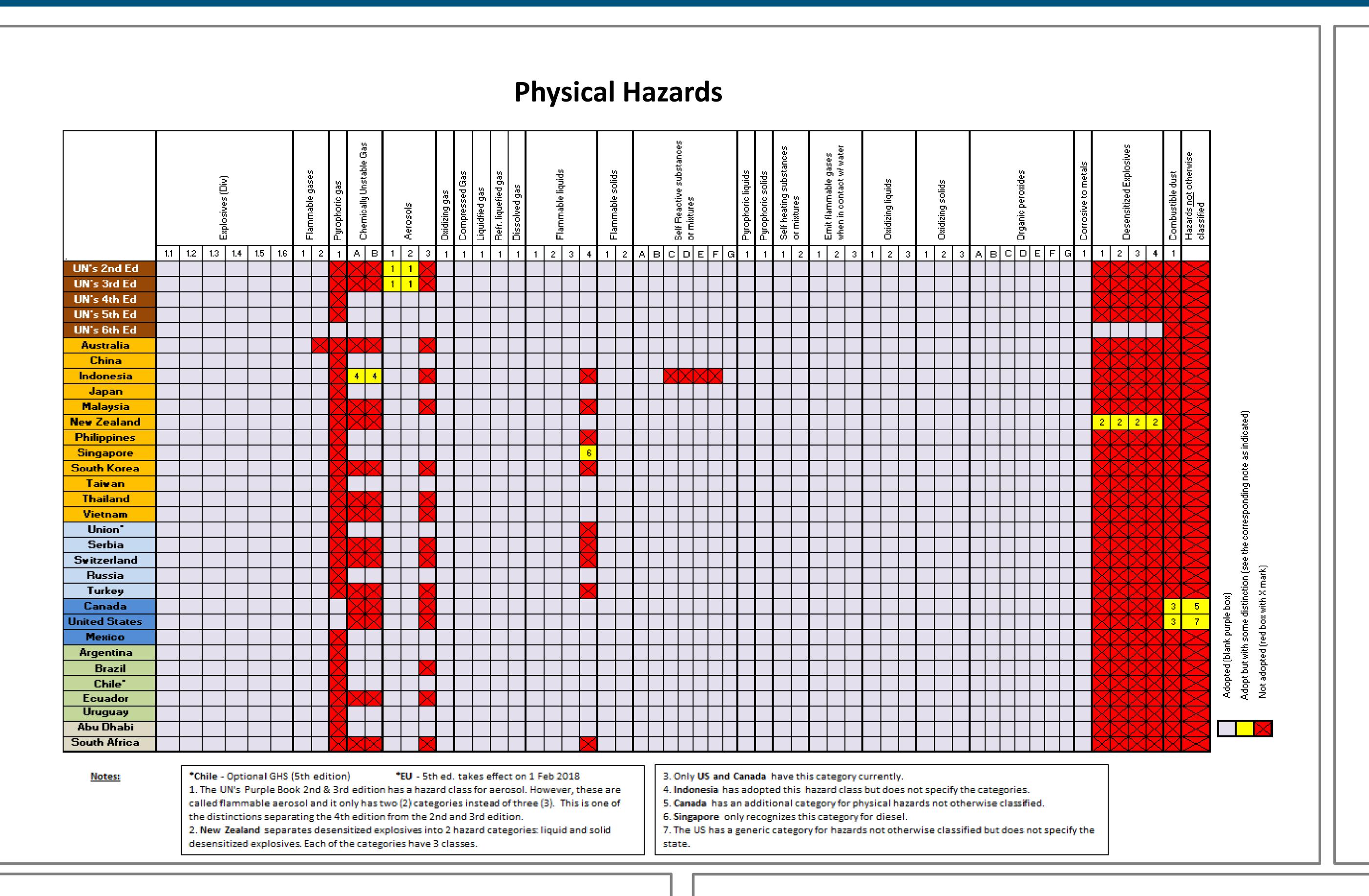
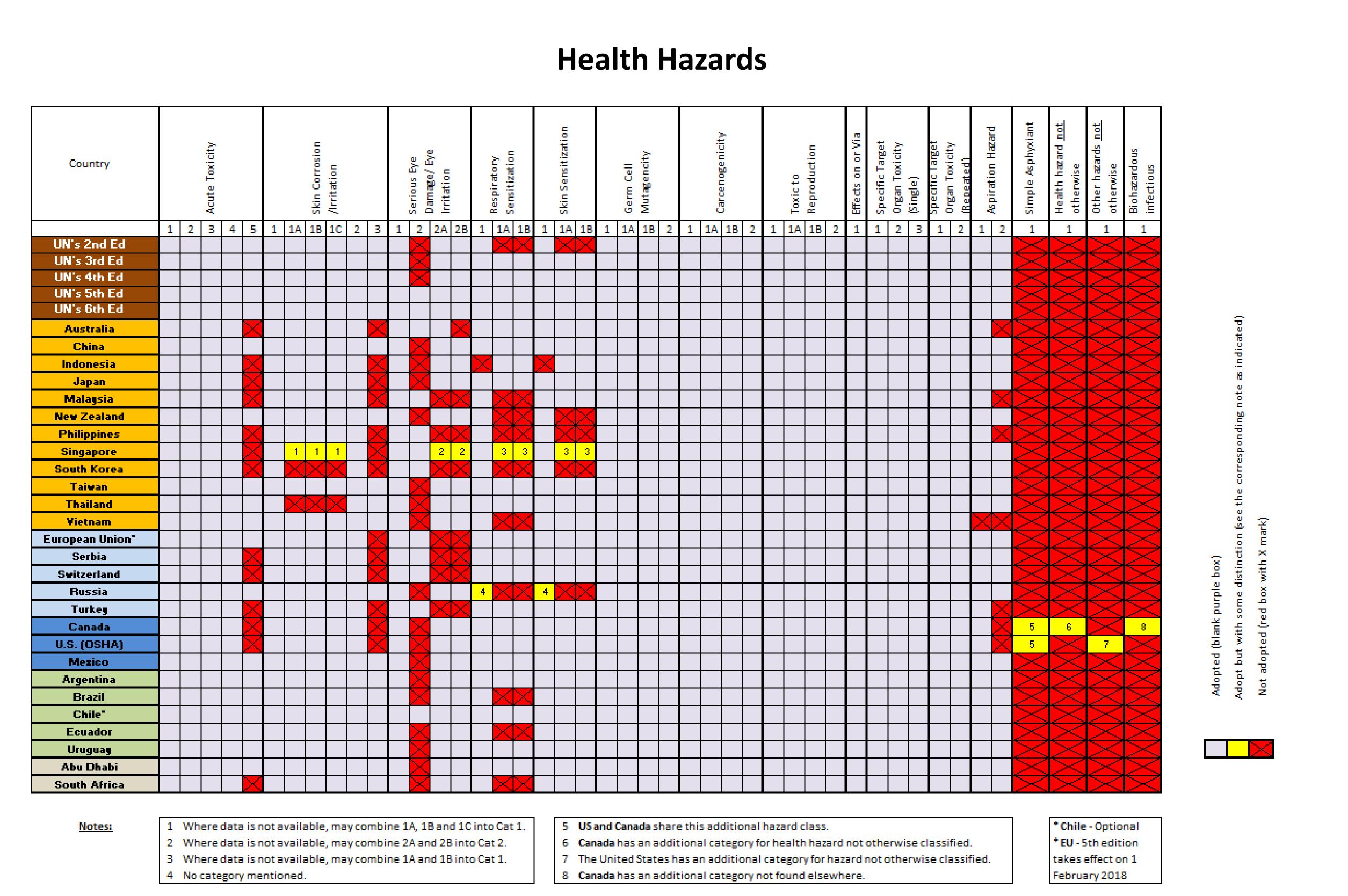
GHS: A Path to Harmonization

Nhat Nguyen







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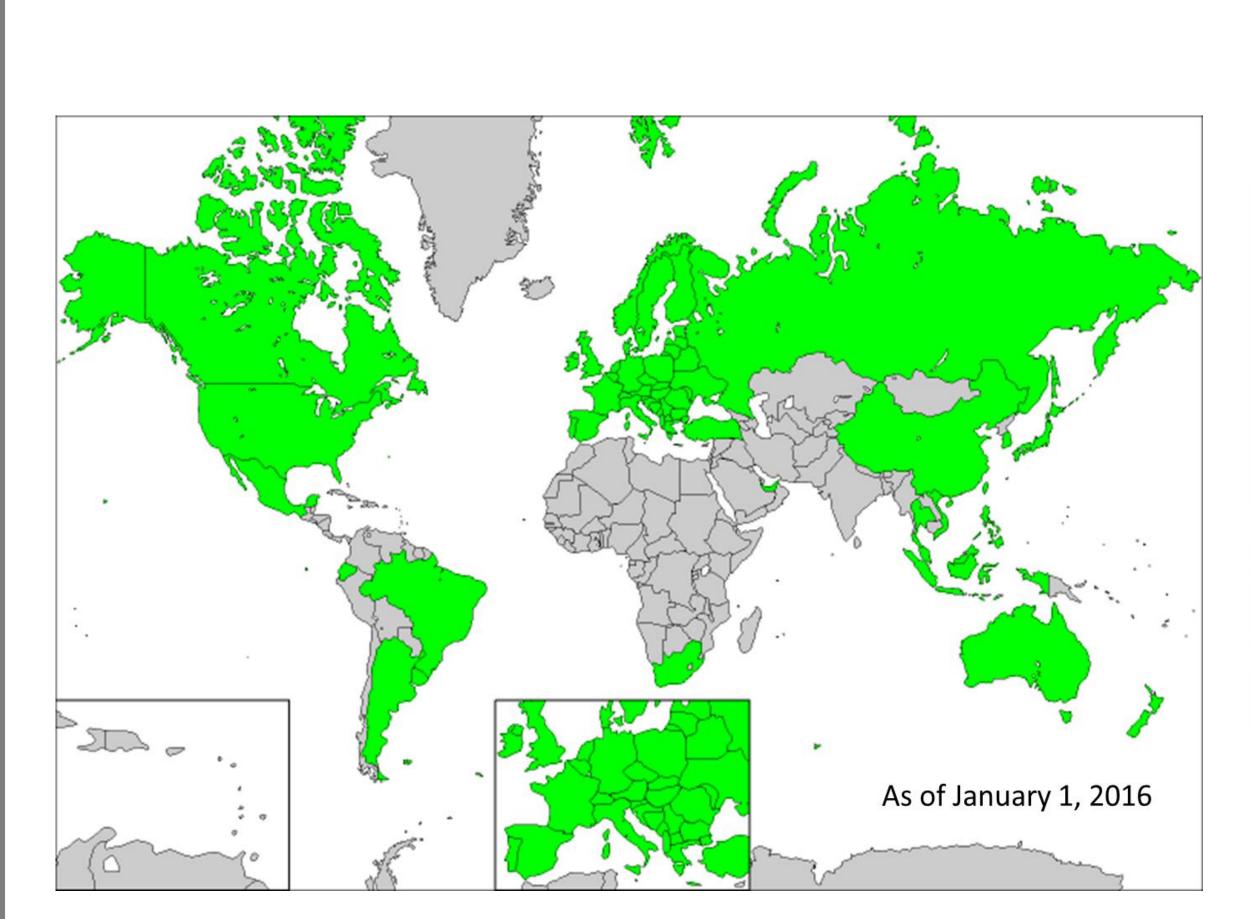
1 These hazard classes are specific to New Zealand

Notes:

Introduction

The UN's Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) has been adopted by various jurisdictions around the world as part of the chemical management and hazard communication program, which aims to ensure the safe use, transport and disposal of chemicals. The system imposes specific requirements while still allowing the various adopters to implement the so-called "building blocks" so as to fit within the existing chemical framework. The UN touted the GHS as a "basis for harmonization of rules and regulations on chemicals at national, regional and worldwide level".

Several commentators, observers and critics have opined that - in reality - these implementations have had the opposite and unintended effect of creating a fractured rather than a harmonized system. Evidence they cited includes the timing and adoption of different versions of GHS, differences in jurisdictional interpretation of differing rules, and refusal to adopt certain features of GHS by various countries. In order to determine whether such harmonization has been achieved — or lack thereof — this poster presents graphical evidence and a global examination of how GHS has been implemented.



5th Revision Canada, European Union*, Mexico, Chile* 6th Revision 3rd Revision Australia, Korea, Malaysia, Serbia, Switzerland, US, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam 4th Revision China, Japan, Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines*, Singapore, Brazil, Russia, Uruguay 2nd Revision South Africa, Ecuador

Global Adoption

Products	Countries
Workplace chemicals	Abu Dhabi, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, EU, Ecuador, Japan, Indonesia, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Uruguay, U.S., Vietnam
All chemical products	EU
Agrochemicals	Indonesia, New Zealand, Vietnam
Household Products & Medical Products	Thailand, Vietnam (insecticides & disinfectants), New Zealand (some products)