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## Report of the Director-General

### Supplementary report: Activities of the International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre (CIS) in 2010–11

**Summary:** The International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre (CIS) updated its CISDOC bibliographic database, International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs), and CIS/SafeWork web pages. The ILO *Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety* was converted into a web version for easier access/updating. CIS continued to cooperate with its collaborating centres and other institutions for effective sharing of occupational safety and health (OSH) information.

**Author unit:** International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre/Programme on Safety and Health at Work and the Environment (CIS/SafeWork).

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## I. Objectives

1. The work of the International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre (CIS) contributes to the achievement of the strategic objective of enhancing the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and, more specifically, to operational outcome 6 (workers and enterprises benefit from improved safety and health conditions at work) through information-sharing activities.
2. The CIS is an important component of the ILO's knowledge base on occupational safety and health, since it monitors trends and new developments in this area by gathering and disseminating selected information on occupational safety and health (OSH) through its contacts with publishers and CIS centres. The Internet has become the primary medium through which the CIS disseminates information. It is the intention of the CIS to maintain its website as the most important portal for safety and health information in the world. In addition, the network of CIS centres contributes to the exchange of information among professionals and ILO constituents responsible for the establishment and implementation of national policies and programmes.

## II. Achievements

3. The CISDOC bibliographic and CIS Thesaurus databases (72,000 and 15,000 records, respectively) have been successfully updated by means of the Oracle database management system. The CISDOC database has continued to grow at a rate of 1,500 new records per year.
4. A new version of the CISDOC database has been developed and launched. The new version increases the effectiveness of the information-sharing process by means of new functions and better accessibility over the Internet.
5. The CISDOC database has continued to be made available in three languages, with new records being translated into Spanish (the National Institute of Medicine and Occupational Safety (INMST) of Spain).
6. A new trilingual user-friendly knowledge-sharing DVD, e-OSH, has been produced. The DVD contains all ILO material on OSH classified into three main categories: ILO instruments on OSH, ILO publications on OSH, and ILO events on OSH. It contains the ILO Encyclopaedia, the collection of International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs), normative documents, training materials and other publications, in English, French and Spanish. A total of 11,000 copies of the 2011 e-OSH DVD were produced and distributed at numerous international events, including the XIX World Congress on Safety and Health at Work.
7. In accordance with ILO Knowledge Management policy, the CIS website was transferred into the ILO Web Content Management System (WCMS). It was integrated into the SafeWork website with a view to increasing the effectiveness of both information sources. The CIS website is regularly improved and updated to increase the accessibility of the information.
8. Three new centres joined the CIS network in 2010–11 (Canada, Serbia and Spain). Annual meetings of the CIS centres were held in Beijing, China (30 August 2010) and Istanbul, Turkey (11 September 2011). The latter meeting was held in conjunction with the XIX World Congress on Safety and Health at Work. A regional meeting of European CIS centres was held in London, United Kingdom, in November 2010.

9. The ILO SafeWork programme has brought together a number of leading CIS centres to revitalize the role of the CIS network, promote cooperation and discuss priorities for future CIS products and services. The meeting took place at ILO headquarters in Geneva on 2–3 November 2011 and provided useful guidance on how to enhance the relevance and cost-effectiveness of the global collection and dissemination of OSH information for better-informed policy advice and technical assistance to the ILO's constituents and other concerned institutions.
10. Work on a new all-electronic edition of the ILO *Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety* has continued during the biennium. A website for the new edition of the Encyclopaedia has also been designed. The entire fourth edition was re-encoded and transferred into the new web environment. Selected chapters of the Encyclopaedia are currently being updated.
11. In collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the collection of ICSCs has been updated with new and revised cards and made available worldwide via the website. The pages of the ICSC collection, which exists in some 20 languages, are among the most frequently visited pages of the website. The CIS is actively engaged in putting in place a computer infrastructure for the cards. A new ILO-served database, available on the CIS website, has been created for the ICSC collection.
12. SafeWork and CIS web pages maintained by CIS were among the most visited on the ILO website in 2010 and 2011. SafeWork is the top ILO department/unit in terms of total web page views. In 2010 and 2011, a total of 2,149,063 SafeWork and CIS web pages were viewed during 817,579 visits to the website. The most viewed pages were those of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work campaign; the ICSCs; the SafeWork topics and areas of work; ILO instruments on OSH; and the resources of the CIS.
13. The CIS continues to cooperate with other international, regional and national safety and health institutions. CIS staff contributed to OSH advocacy work by participating in the XIX World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 11–15 September 2011. CIS has also actively participated in the organization of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, held on 28 April every year.

### III. Financial situation

14. The preliminary financial results for the CIS's operations during the biennium show an income of US\$3,074,554, comprising an ILO regular budget contribution of \$2,796,809 and sales, royalties and other income of \$277,745. Expenditure totalled \$3,449,289, decreasing the carry-forward to 2012–13 by \$374,735. These figures may change slightly as final adjustments are made in closing the 2010–11 financial period.

Geneva, 12 March 2012.