

Publication of Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) for worldwide use

- Published Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) for 1,783 chemical substances, co-developed by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO)
- Expected to improve safety and health by increasing the accessibility of safety and health information for chemical substances handled in workplaces

□ The Ministry of Employment and Labor (Minister Kyung-duk An) recently **completed the translation and production of Korean version** of the **International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs)** in collaboration with the **International Labour Organization (ILO)** and **Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency** (President Du-young Park).

* ICSCs: International Chemical Safety Cards

○ The International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) **are cards that were developed in the 1980s by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO) to efficiently convey and disseminate accurate information on chemical substances.** (Reference 1).

- Cards for **a total of 1,783** chemical substances have been produced **in 11 languages,* including English, Chinese, and Japanese, with the Korean version now having been added as the 12th language.**

* English, Chinese, Japanese, Finnish, French, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Russian, and Spanish

□ The International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) present **essential safety and health information on various chemical substances**, including characteristics and risks, accident prevention measures, and emergency response tips, in a concise manner via **a two-page card.**

*▲**Characteristics of substances:** substance perception information, physical/chemical characteristics, etc.

▲**Hazard and risk information:** acute hazard information, effects on human body in cases of short-/long-term exposure, risk of fire/explosion, etc.

▲**Prevention/response:** accident prevention, emergency response, occupational exposure criteria, storage conditions, etc.

(ILO).

* The ILO and WHO update 50 to 100 cards every year, including the production of new cards and modification and supplementation of existing cards.

□ **International Cooperation Director Gil-jun Noh of the Ministry of Employment and Labor** said, “We hope that the recent publication of the Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) will help improve the safety and health of Korean employees and be of assistance to companies both inside and outside of Korea.”

○ He also said, “We hope that this will serve as an opportunity to **further strengthen cooperation with major international organizations**, such as International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO), in the occupational safety and health sector.”