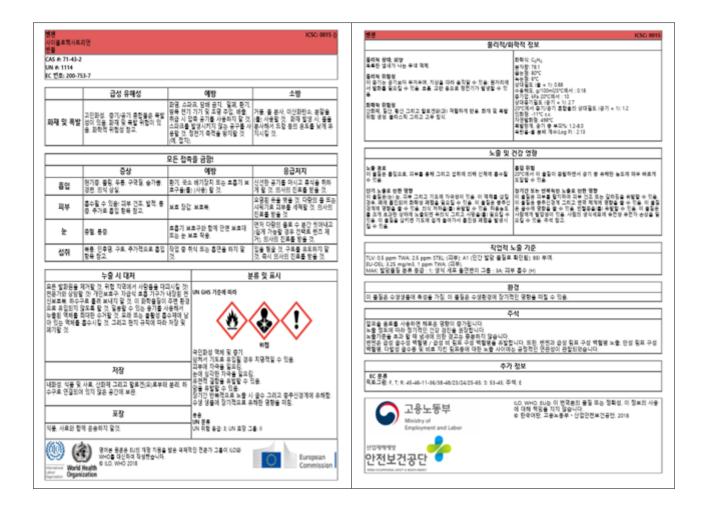
Publication of Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) for worldwide use

- 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-youg Park).
- * ICSCs: International Chemical Safety Cards
- o 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.
- **AHazard 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.



- The publication of the Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) has enabled Korean users inside and outside of the nation, such as safety and health managers of Korean companies overseas and Korean workers employed overseas, to easily access and use safety and health information on chemical substances.
- This is expected to **improve workplace safety and health** in various ways, such as **preventing accidents and occupational diseases**.
- □ Meanwhile, the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) can be used as reference data in the process of preparing and reviewing the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS),** in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act.
- * For the chemical substances included in the harmful factor classification criteria of the Occupational Safety and Health Act or mixtures including these substances, the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) should be prepared, submitted, provided, and published, as defined by related law, and it should be used to provide relevant education.
- ** MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet): This is a manual for the safe use of chemical substances that provides 16 items of data, including hazard/risk information and handling methods.
- □ The Korean version of the International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs) is publicly available on the International Labour Organization (ILO) website,* so anyone can access it or print it out.
- Furthermore, the Ministry of Employment and Labor plans to keep it **up to date** in collaboration with the Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency and International Labour Organization

(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."
- o 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."