



EU Monitoring Report

10 – 17 June 2021

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CHEMICALS

➤ REACH

- Revised version of the correcting act of the 14th Adaptation to Technical Progress (ATP)

Source: *European Commission*

The 39th Meeting of Competent Authorities for REACH and CLP (CARACAL) was held on 4 May. Among other issues, one point on the agenda was the correcting act to the 14th ATP.

As a follow-up document to the meeting, the European Commission published the latest draft version of the correcting act, which can be found through the link above.

- Agenda and support documents of the 40th CARACAL Meeting (29-30 June 2021)

Source: *European Commission*

The next Meeting of Competent Authorities for REACH and CLP (CARACAL) will take place on 29-30 June. The draft agenda of the meeting can be found [HERE](#).

During the REACH open session (29 June), following relevant items are on the agenda:

- Update on the Revision of REACH (and related actions in the Chemicals Strategy)
- Update on the activities on "One substance-one assessment"
- Update from the CARACAL Subgroup-Polymers (*accompanying document [HERE](#)*)
- Review of Recommendation 2011/696/EU on the definition of nanomaterial - an update (*accompanying document [HERE](#)*)
- Assessment of 'More than one constituent substances' (MOCS)
- Summary of inputs to the call for information on socio-economic elements related to the ECHA's 10th draft recommendation for prioritisation of substances for authorisation (*accompanying documents [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)*)
- Restrictions Roadmap (*accompanying documents [HERE](#), [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)*)

During the CLP open session (30 June), following relevant items are on the agenda:

- Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CLP related actions)
- Assessment of 'More than one constituent substances' (MOCS)
- Impact assessment on the simplification and digitalisation of labelling requirements for chemicals - state of play
- 18th ATP to CLP and Update on other ongoing or upcoming ATPs
- ECHA 5-yearly report on the operation of REACH and CLP

All the support documents, information points and the draft agenda of the meeting published so far, can be found [HERE](#).

- ECHA's 5-year review paints dark picture – but there is hope

Source: *Chemsec*

Even though Chemsec praises the REACH regulation as ‘the most ambitious chemicals legislation in the world’, their analysis of the ECHA five-year activity review points out 5 key-facts that raise concerns:

1. 18% of consumer products contained illegal amounts of restricted chemicals
2. 33% of safety data sheets are deficient
3. In 9% of the investigated cases, substances are illegally placed on the market, in breach of the authorization duty
4. 89% of suppliers don’t communicate information down the supply chain
5. 71% of imported products from outside of the EU have incorrect labels

In Chemsec’s own words, “European citizens should be able to expect a lot more. Unfortunately, they can still not rest fully assured that products on the market are as safe as they might have been led to believe. Ultimately, as the REACH revision is under way, and several other initiatives have been presented – such as the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability – the EU has a golden opportunity to plug the loopholes and make its chemicals legislation even better”.

➤ Biocides

- [Draft agenda of the 47th meeting of the Coordination Group \(29 June – 1 July 2021\)](#)

Source: [European Commission](#)

Relevant items on the agenda of the 47th meeting of the Coordination Group are:

- Formal referrals on mutual recognition disagreements
- Issues identified in the context of Union Authorisations
- Feedback on e-consultations
- Next steps in relation to the agreed CA document: “Proposal to bridge the endocrine disruptor assessment of biocidal non-active substances with REACH screening and assessment.

Several work documents for the meeting were also published ahead of the meeting:

- Overview of the e-consultations discussed at the Coordination Group as on 15th June 2021 [HERE](#)
- Date of applicability based on type of entry in the Environment TAB (Technical Agreements on Biocides), [HERE](#).

- [Reports from Member States on the implementation of the Biocidal Products Regulation](#)

Source: [European Commission](#)

As mentioned in the last EU Monitoring Report, the European Commission published last week a report on the implementation of the Regulation concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products, which entered into force in 2013.

This report has been established as required by Article 65(4) of the BPR, according to which the Commission, based on the reports submitted by Member States on the implementation of the BPR in their respective territories.

Indeed, the provisions in Article 65(3) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 (Biocidal Products Regulation) require Member States to submit, every five years, such report. Through the link above, you can access the reports submitted by the Member States (except Czechia). They cover the period from the entry into application of the Regulation (1 September 2013) until 31 December 2019.

The report from the European Commission based on these national reports can be found [HERE](#).

➤ Other

- **Security breach on ECHA Website**

Source: [ECHA](#)

On 17 June, ECHA released the following communiqué about a cyberattack over their website:

“We have been informed that an unauthorised external user has uploaded malicious documents to the ECHA websites by exploiting a weakness in our website.

We took immediate actions to prevent any further damage, therefore currently and as temporary measure, it is not possible to access documents and pictures throughout the ECHA websites.

The unauthorised user managed to upload documents which may contain links to malicious sources in a specific folder in our system. There is no direct link in our website to such documents, they can be found only by skilfully using search engine services, therefore, you are not directly exposed to any risk.

However, if you stumble across any suspicious file – e.g. documents not at all related to ECHA business which may contain malicious content, etc. – while browsing our websites, please let us know immediately.

Since the vulnerability is isolated only to a specific action, we can reassure that any data has been secure all the time.

We are working hard for a permanent fix to the problem. We apologise for any issue caused and highly appreciate your patience, cooperation and vigilance.”



SUSTAINABILITY

➤ Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

- This is how the [Restriction Roadmap](#) can help speed up the journey towards our non-toxic destination

Source: [Chemsec](#)

In this op-ed, Chemsec addresses the challenge of picking up the pace when it comes to banning hazardous chemicals from consumer products. This article is linked with the EU Chemicals Strategy presented last year by the European Commission. It focuses in particular in the concept of a Restriction Roadmap introduced by the Strategy. Considering the work intensive and time-consuming process ahead to get a revised REACH and CLP in place, the Roadmap aims to tackle the problem as far as possible within the current system, while awaiting a new.

The Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, published last fall, acknowledges the gravity of the situation and commits to “ensure that consumer products [...] do not contain chemicals that cause cancers, gene mutations, affect the reproductive or the endocrine system, or are persistent and bioaccumulative”.

In the article, Chemsec proposes that the Commission starts by banning the following substances from consumer products:

- All classified CMRs (Carcinogens, Mutagens and substances toxic to Reproduction), using the REACH fast-track approach
- All SVHCs (Substances of Very High Concern) on the Candidate List
- All SVHCs on the [SIN List](#) chemicals, using a priority substance group approach.

It also calls for a grouping approach when it comes to evaluation on restrictions.

Chemsec published a more detailed paper on the topic, untitled “The Restriction Roadmap – How to make effective use of this opportunity”. It can be found [HERE](#).

➤ Water

- [Briefing Note on Integrated Management Plans](#)

Source: [EurEau](#)

This paper advocates how local solutions to managing investment and maintenance needs of waste and storm water will protect people and the environment in an environmentally sustainable and financially feasible way. Integrated waste water and storm water management plans may provide waste water operators and urban planners with a strategy for managing water in the urban environment. Local solutions to managing waste water and storm water systems allow people and the environment to be protected.

- [EurEau's paper on the Value of Water Services](#)

Source: [EurEau](#)

This paper intends to raise awareness amongst policy makers about the value of water services for Europe and its citizens.

“Understanding the value of our water services is investing in our future and the future of the next generations. Water gives us life. Awareness of the value of water services will ensure that they are effective, efficient, resilient, sustainable and affordable for all.

Our water service providers deliver day and night. Every time you need safe and clean tap water for drinking, hygiene and sanitation, all you have to do is open a tap. These same service providers conduct used water away from our homes and businesses to treat it before it is returned to the environment, recycling the valuable nutrients along the way and helping to keep us healthy. All too often these privileges are taken for granted.”.

- **EurEau’s 2020 Annual Report**

Source: [EurEau](#)

EurEau’s annual report cover their work on EU’s legislation, COVID-19 and their work with their members. The annual report give details on their work on topics such as:

- the Drinking Water Directive,
- the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive,
- Industrial Emissions Directive,
- Water Reuse Regulation and the Sewage Sludge
- Microplastics and micropollutants.

➤ **Renovation**

- **Council approves conclusion on an EU renovation wave**

Source: [Council of the European Union](#)

On 11 June, the Council approved conclusions on a renovation wave that repairs the economy now, and creates green buildings for the future. The European Commission presented the renovation wave strategy on 14 October 2020 as part of the European Green Deal. The renovation wave strategy aims to intensify renovation efforts throughout the EU, in order to make the necessary contribution by the buildings sector to the 2050 climate neutrality goal and to deliver a fair and just green transition.

The strategy promotes in particular renovations that reduce energy use, curb greenhouse gas emissions, increase the environmental performance of buildings and generate cost savings. Member states underline that the starting point for renovations should be the cost-efficient reduction of energy demand and the replacement of carbon intensive or energy-inefficient heating and cooling technologies. This should go hand in hand with the integration of energy efficient solutions and the use of renewable energy and waste heat or cold.

The Council underlines the importance of eco-design, environmental and energy labelling measures in promoting green heating and cooling solutions and facilitating the phase-out of fossil-fuel-operated equipment in the most cost-efficient way.