

EU Monitoring Report

17-21 January 2021

CONTENTS

CHEMICALS	2
➤ REACH	2
• <i>Draft Agenda of the REACH Committee meeting of 4 February 2021</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>Candidate List updated with two chemicals that are toxic for reproduction.....</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>Onlive Event: The “Plastics Conference 2021: Production, Recycling, Sustainability”</i>	<i>2</i>
• <i>Online Event: “Transitioning The Chemical Industry Toward A Circular Future”</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>Draft agenda of the 38th meeting of REACH and CLP competent authorities (3-4 March 2021)</i>	<i>3</i>
➤ Biocides	4
• <i>Streamlining efficacy assessment of disinfectant product families</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>Article 95 update for biocidal products.....</i>	<i>4</i>
SUSTAINABILITY.....	6
➤ Energy	6
• <i>Avoid hydrogen for heating homes, urges energy efficiency coalition</i>	<i>6</i>
• <i>Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG) Plenary meeting 2021</i>	<i>6</i>
➤ Construction.....	6
• <i>Debate in the European Parliament on the Regulation on marketing of construction products.....</i>	<i>6</i>
➤ Environment.....	7
• <i>COVID-19 is the opportunity to speed up the environment agenda</i>	<i>7</i>

CHEMICALS

➤ REACH

- Draft Agenda of the REACH Committee meeting of 4 February 2021

Source: [European Commission](#)

Relevant points on the agenda:

- Draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annex XIV to REACH as regards endocrine disruptor properties of four phthalates

Access the full agenda with the link above.

- Candidate List updated with two chemicals that are toxic for reproduction

Source: [European Chemicals Agency](#)

The two substances are used in products, such as inks or toners and to produce plastics and rubber tyres. They were added to the Candidate List as they are toxic for reproduction and therefore, may adversely affect sexual function and fertility, and cause developmental toxicity in offspring.

These are:

- Bis(2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl)ether
- Dioctyltin dilaurate, stannane, dioctyl-, bis(coco acyloxy) derivs., and any other stannane, dioctyl-, bis(fatty acyloxy) derivs. wherein C12 is the predominant carbon number of the fatty acyloxy moiety

- Online Event: The “Plastics Conference 2021: Production, Recycling, Sustainability”

Source: [Cefic](#)

On 11 February 2021, Cefic organises an event to debate the developments in the plastic industry, the production and use of plastics. It will bring together stakeholders from the plastics industries, food and drink industries, the packaging sector, recyclers and the chemical industries. It will also involve participants from the construction sector and the

government. Cefic Speaker: Henk Pool, Cefic Innovation Manager, will speak at the session “Plastics Circular Economy. Chemical Recycling and new methods”.

- **Online Event: “Transitioning The Chemical Industry Toward A Circular Future”**

Source: [Cefic](#)

On 10-11 March 2021, Cefic organises an event on circularity in the chemical industry. Go Circular is a business case conference where you can find a good balance between topics and speakers. It covers the entire plastics circular value chain starting from petrochemicals companies to brand owners. Main idea of the event is to have discussions around not only recycling technologies but also economic feasibility. Cefic speakers: Frans Stokman, Executive Director of Petrochemicals Europe and Henk Pool, Innovation Manager at Cefic, will speak at the session “Integrating Waste Recycling with Existing Oil Refining Infrastructure”, and will present Petrochemical & Cefic views on chemical recycling including aspects of Mass Balance.

- **Draft agenda of the 38th meeting of REACH and CLP competent authorities (3-4 March 2021)**

Source: [European Commission](#)

Relevant points at the agenda:

- Update on the Revision of REACH (and related actions in the Chemicals Strategy)
- Essential Uses – A possible concept for REACH
- Update on the CARACAL Subgroup – Polymers
- Update on the CARACAL Subgroup – Eds
- Update on the end of the transition period of the UK withdrawal from the EU

Access the full agenda with the link above.

- 11th Euro Chlor International Chlorine Technology Conference and Exhibition

Source: [EuroChlor](#)

On 4-6 March 2021, the European conference on chlor will be held in Warsaw, Poland (programme available [HERE](#)). The theme for this event is “Chlor-Alkali: contributing to a clean planet for all” and participation is open to everyone, including Euro Chlor members, partners and all other interested parties. As in previous events, health, safety and environmental protection will be core but this 11th edition will also focus more specifically on energy efficiency, how to become carbon neutral and how to contribute to the circular economy.

➤ Biocides

- Streamlining efficacy assessment of disinfectant product families

Source: [ECHA](#)

ECHA’s Biocidal Products Committee has agreed on a harmonised approach for determining products for worst-case testing when assessing the efficacy of disinfectant biocidal product families. The efficacy of all uses in a product family can be demonstrated with a so-called worst-case product.

This product is usually a ‘member of the family’ that has the lowest concentrations of active substance and co-formulants that have a positive effect on efficacy, and highest concentrations of co-formulants that have a negative effect on efficacy.

The new document helps companies to identify the worst-case product composition, and to design bridging studies for substantiating the choice of this composition.

Access the paper : [Harmonized approach to determine a worst-case \(or a representative\) test product to be taken into account for efficacy core assessment for a disinfectant BPF](#)

- Article 95 update for biocidal products

Source: [ECHA](#)

Article 95 has been updated and includes new suppliers of biocides.

As a reminder, ECHA is responsible for the publication of the list of relevant substances and the respective substance and product suppliers, in accordance with Article 95 of the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR). The purpose of this list is to "ensure the equal treatment of persons placing active substances on the market".

The following changes occurred:

- Active chlorine generated from sodium chloride by electrolysis (Redefined from Active Chlorine: manufactured by the reaction of hypochlorous acid and sodium hypochlorite produced in situ) for PT1, PT2, PT3, PT4 and PT5 submitted by Anolytech Norden AB

SUSTAINABILITY

➤ Energy

- Avoid hydrogen for heating homes, urges energy efficiency coalition

Source: [Euractiv](#)

A coalition of 33 business and civil society groups have urged the European Commission to prioritise renewables and energy efficiency over hydrogen as part of Europe's efforts to decarbonise buildings. Europe's upcoming gas market reform, expected to be tabled in June, "should be aimed at designing an energy system that goes beyond fossil gas" in order to reach climate neutrality by 2050, the coalition says in an [open letter](#) on Thursday (21 January). The buildings sector needs to cut emissions by 60% over the next 10 years in order to reach the bloc's 2030 climate goals, the signatories underline. And to achieve this, renewables and energy efficiency should be prioritised – not hydrogen, they argue.

- Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group (EEFIG) Plenary meeting 2021

Source: [European Commission](#)

EEFIG organises annual plenary meetings that are open to all members and interested parties on 9 February 2021. The next plenary is taking place on 9-10 February 2021 in virtual format. This will be the occasion to discuss the good results of the different work streams in 2020 and draw up possible pathways for EEFIG in 2021 and towards the 2030 target.

➤ Construction

- Debate in the European Parliament on the Regulation on marketing of construction products

Source: [European Parliament](#)

Members of the European Parliament's Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) will meet on 28 January to discuss the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products (the Construction Products Regulation).

➤ **Environment**

- COVID-19 is the opportunity to speed up the environment agenda

Source: [European Committee of the Regions](#)

In this interview, Dimitrios Karnavos (EL/EPP) answers five questions on the 8th Environment Action Programme (EAP). The Mayor of Kallithea is the rapporteur for a draft opinion that requests adequate resources for local and regional authorities to implement environment policies on the ground. The draft opinion will be put to the vote at the next plenary session on 3-5 February after a general exploratory debate at the ENVE commission meeting on 1 February. While EU environment policies have delivered substantial benefits in the past decades, Europe still faces unprecedented environmental, climate and sustainability challenges. These include biodiversity loss, climate change, resource use and pollution. The 8th EAP is pivotal for tackling these challenges in a post COVID-19 era.