

EU Monitoring Report

26 November – 3 December 2020

CONTENTS

CHEMICALS	3
➤ REACH	3
• <i>Draft agenda of the REACH meeting (14 December 2020).....</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>New substance evaluation conclusion published.....</i>	<i>3</i>
• <i>Comments on the revision of REACH Annexes in relation to endocrine disruption properties3</i>	<i>3</i>
➤ Biocides	4
• <i>Article 95 update for biocidal products.....</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>Agenda of the 90th meeting of Members States Competent Authorities for the implementation of the Biocides Regulation (20 December 2020)</i>	<i>4</i>
• <i>Approval of peracetic acid (PAA) and peroxyoctanoic acid (POOA) as active substance for use in biocidal products.....</i>	<i>5</i>
➤ Water	5
• <i>MEPs approve deal on tap water and demand that EU water legislation be respected</i>	<i>5</i>
➤ CLP.....	7
• <i>New proposal to harmonise classification and labelling for 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one ...</i>	<i>7</i>
SUSTAINABILITY.....	7
➤ Consumers	7
• <i>Getting rid of green washing: restoring consumer confidence in green claims.....</i>	<i>7</i>
➤ Electronic waste recycling.....	7
• <i>Half of plastics in electronic waste not recycled in EU.....</i>	<i>7</i>
• <i>EU Recycler: Simpler EU laws would help recycle e-waste plastics.....</i>	<i>8</i>
➤ Water	8
• <i>Industrial Emissions Directive: Evaluation report published</i>	<i>8</i>



- *Eureau contribution to the Integrated water management.....8*

Chemicals

➤ REACH

- Draft agenda of REACH meeting (14 December 2020)

Source: [European Commission](#)

A relevant point on the agenda is: Draft Commission Regulation (EU) amending Annex XIV to REACH as regards endocrine disruptor properties of four phthalates

- New substance evaluation conclusion published

Source: ECHA

New substance evaluation conclusion documents are now available on ECHA's website for:

- [bis\(2-ethylhexyl\) tetrabromophthalate](#) (EC 247-426-5, CAS 26040-51-7) added to the CoRAP list in 2019 and evaluated by Sweden; and
- [triclocarban](#) (EC 202-924-1, CAS 101-20-2) added to the CoRAP list in 2019 and evaluated by France.
- Comments on the revision of REACH Annexes in relation to endocrine disruption properties

Source: [European Commission](#)

You can find in the link above comments from Member States and stakeholders such as CEFIC, Downstream Users of Chemicals Co-ordination Group (DUCC), ChemTrust, and the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) on the proposals on a way forward to update the REACH Annexes in relation to endocrine disruption properties

You can find here the note of discussion proposed by the EU Commission '[Concerns: Proposals on a way forward to update the REACH Annexes in relation to endocrine disruption properties](#)' (CASG-ED/2020/08).

➤ Biocides

- 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".

- 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 AQUASYSTEM s.r.o
- 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 AQUINOCARE Water Innovations GmbH
- Active chlorine released from hypochlorous acid (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 ECEwaters
- **Agenda of the 90th meeting of Members States Competent Authorities for the implementation of the Biocides Regulation (20 December 2020)**

Source: *European Commission*

You can find below some relevant points to be discussed as well as the link to the working documents:

- [The number of Union authorisations and active substances planned for peer review in 2022-2025](#)
- [EDs bridging biocides with REACH](#)
- [Overview on Human Health Risk assessment for non-professional users - PT21 \(antifouling products\)](#)

- [Q&A pairs concerning the practical implementation of the simplified authorisation procedure \(SAP\)](#)
 - [Notification simplified authorisation, 30 day period for notification](#)
 - [Progress of the renewals of approval of active substances](#)
 - [Progress of the review programme of existing active substances under Article 89 of the BPR](#)
 - [ASAP – Active Substance Action Plan – progress report \(September – November 2020\)](#)
 - [Progress of as evaluations as regards the determination of ED properties](#)
 - [Approach on providing information in public documents on non-active substances with indications of endocrine-disrupting properties](#)
 - [Management of product authorisation for in situ cases](#)
-
- Approval of peracetic acid (PAA) and peroxyoctanoic acid (POOA) as active substance for use in biocidal products

Source : [European Commission](#)

Reaction mass of peracetic acid and peroxyoctanoic acid is approved as an active substance for use in biocidal products of product-types 2, 3 and 4 subject to the specifications and conditions set out in the Annex.

➤ Water

- MEPs approve deal on tap water and demand that EU water legislation be respected

Source: [European Parliament](#)

The Environment Committee approved the deal on the drinking water directive and adopted a resolution demanding EU legislation on water be correctly implemented.

The agreement with member states on the drinking water directive was approved with 73 votes to 2 and 5 abstentions. The new rules will improve the quality of tap water by tightening the maximum limits for certain pollutants such as lead and harmful bacteria. They also aim to cut plastic litter by encouraging the use of tap water. This could be done by providing water free of charge in public buildings or for a low service fee, and to customers in restaurants, canteens, and catering services.

Comply with EU water legislation by 2027

The Committee also adopted a resolution on the implementation of EU water legislation with 68 votes to 2 and 10 abstentions.

While MEPs agree with the Commission's assessment that the Water Framework Directive (WFD) is fit for purpose and should not be revised, they strongly regret that half of the bodies of water in the EU are still not in good condition and that the objectives of the WFD have not yet been reached. This is mainly due to inadequate funding, particularly slow implementation, and insufficient enforcement. The precautionary and polluter-pays principles are not being implemented properly, and many member states are using exemptions too broadly, they say.

The resolution underlines that the WFD objectives need to be better integrated into sectoral policies, particularly in agriculture, transport and energy in order to be fully compliant with the WFD and for all surface and ground waters to achieve 'good status' by 2027 at the latest.

MEPs urge member states to reduce the use of fertiliser and pesticides and call for such targets to be integrated and implemented in the national Strategic Plans under the EU's farm policy. Additional action regarding chemicals and pollutants, water pricing policies, hydropower and urban wastewater treatment is needed, they say.

Next steps

The plenary will vote on the deal on the drinking water directive and on the resolution on the implementation of the EU water legislation during its 14 - 17 December session.

Background

The Fitness Check of EU water legislation in December 2019 concluded that the legislation is adequate but that there is room for improvement related to investments, implementation, integrating water into other policies, chemical pollution, administrative simplification and digitalisation.

While the Water Framework Directive established a framework to protect 110.000 bodies of surface water in the EU, the implementation has been lacking. Less than half of the EU's bodies of water are in good status, even though the deadline for achieving this was 2015.

➤ **CLP**

- New proposal to harmonise classification and labelling for 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one

Source: *ECHA*

Access the document here [1,2-benzisothiazol-3\(2H\)-one \(EC 220-120-9, CAS 2634-33-5\)](#).

Sustainability

➤ **Consumers**

- Getting rid of green washing: restoring consumer confidence in green claims

Source : [BEUC](#)

In the framework of the European Green Deal and the new Circular Economy Action Plan, the EU is planning to tackle the problem of misleading and unsubstantiated environmental claims. The aim of the upcoming legislative measures will be to empower consumers in the green transition.

BEUC welcomes these initiatives and calls on the EU to be ambitious and not shy away from measures that can effectively clean up the market from all misleading green claim and labels.

➤ **Electronic waste recycling**

- Half of plastics in electronic waste not recycled in EU

Source: [Euractiv](#)

Around half of plastic waste from electronic and electrical equipment (WEEE) is not properly collected or sorted in the EU, meaning it is not recycled at the end of the day, according to a new report. Read the full article in the link above.

- **EU Recycler: Simpler EU laws would help recycle e-waste plastics**

Source: [Euractiv](#)

Around half of e-waste plastics are not recycled in Europe but rather shipped abroad where they often end up being dumped or burnt. Simpler laws on recycling in Europe would help keep those materials at home and recycle them, argues Chris Slijkhuis, General Manager of MGG Polymers and board member of the European Electronics Recyclers Association. Read the full article in the link above.

➤ **Water**

- **Industrial Emissions Directive: Evaluation report published**

Source: [Eureau](#)

Aside from the roadmap on the revision of E-PRTR (European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register), [the evaluation report of the Industrial Emission Directive \(IED\)](#) has been published. You can find the report [here](#).

The main finding of the report is that it is unclear how the IED impacted on the release of pollution in water. It also identified inconsistencies between the IED and the WFD (pollution discharge in drinking water resources) and unclear regulatory boundaries between the IED and the UWWTD, particularly with respect to waste water sludge management and its onward uses. It also noted that according to E-PRTR data, direct emissions (in mass) to water from industry for most pollutants have slightly decreased in recent years and, in the meantime, transfers from industry towards UWWTPs have marginally increased (except for heavy metals). This is not good news for rivers nor WWTP operators.

- **Eureau contribution to the Integrated water management**

Source: [EurEau](#)

A recent 'fitness check' (evaluation) found EU water legislation to be broadly fit for purpose. However, improvement is needed on aspects such as investment, implementing rules, integrating water objectives into other policies, chemical pollution, administrative simplification and digitalisation.



This initiative addresses the findings on chemical pollution and the legal obligation to regularly review the lists of priority substances and groundwater pollutants.

EurEau submitted the answer to the Inception Impact Assessment concerning this initiative that can be found in the link above.