



7 October 2014 (12:30 - 17:00 CET)

Chairman: *Guy Ethier, Umicore*
Co-Chairman: *Mark Raffray, Johnson Matthey*

Metals Conference Centre - Zinc Room
Rue du Duc 100 - 1150 Brussels (BELGIUM)

Minutes

1. Welcome and introduction.

- a. **Reminder on confidentiality and Competition Law.** Participants were reminded on their obligation to comply with confidentiality and Competition Law.
- b. **Tour de table and apologies.** The list of participants is available in Annex 1.
- c. **Approval of the Agenda. The Agenda (Annex 1) was approved.** PMC officers were invited to leave the room for agenda points 2-3. The slides presented at the meeting are available in Annex 2.
- d. **Approval of the minutes of the last conference calls (18 Mar & 16 Apr 2014) - including status of action items.** The actions on RCF are currently on hold since RCF is not more targeted by authorisation. All other actions were finalised, addressed during the meeting, or on-going. The minutes were approved.

2. High-level discussions with EPMF President / Vice-President

The meeting discussions remained confidential among the management committee

3. Recruitment of Caroline's replacement (EPMF recruitment Committee actions to date; applicants; plans for the further recruitment process and conference call of Sept 12)

The interviews for 3 candidates will be the week of October 14, a new candidate has shown interest and will be interviewed as soon as possible.

4. Temporary Trustee's report

As temporary Trustee of the PMC, Dave Boyd was asked to report on the project status. Regarding the Silver project, PMC secretariat is proceeding fine with authorisation. Zinc silver zeolite is under discussion with the 'Silver Task Force' of producers of Ag-containing biocides to try, understand and resolve their reproductive and carcinogen endpoints. This will be further discussed under agenda point 10. A risk item was identified regarding the 2015 budget for Silver since two generation studies might emerge in the future (costs of circa 500 000 euros might occur). The General Assembly will have to decide whether the Ag members want to be covered by an exceptional invoice situation and put this money in the reserves. The Mgt Cttee recommends to keep the 2015 budget as it is and surcharge the members of the Silver group next year if testing probability shifts. As regard the PGM project, the PMC secretariat is proceeding fine with a large number of activities. The discussion with the Reconcile Consortium started on cooperation with Karstedt catalyst. The 2015 budget for the PGM project will be roughly the same as presented in Bern in June. The updates of the dossier for the Refinables project were completed at the end of April 2014; so far the secretariat has not received any feedback from ECHA. The decision tree on Refinables categories will be determined at the Work Group meeting on 10 Oct. The substance Identity work is ongoing. There were no issues to report for projects Gold, Cyanides and Rhenium. Hydrazine will be covered by agenda point 9.

Action: Clarify situation regarding 2015 Silver budget and ask the General Assembly to vote on next step

5. Operating state of PMC Secretariat

- a. **Current stretch task state and viability (including agency support for Office Manager).** With the help of an external accountant, the PMC secretariat is now up to date with ledger entry, August included. The accountant have started working on 2009-2012 data, as previously agreed before the summer. The Mgt Cttee has agreed on keeping the accountant two days per month for the ledger entry until a new Secretary General is appointed. Some bottlenecks in the Silver project have been highlighted regarding the Silver Task Force (biocides), the evaluation dossier by the NL and the



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dossier update. The PMC secretariat is currently in a wait and see situation. It is currently hard to predict what RIVM will come up with. The PMC secretariat was reminded that they can go back to consultants if needed. Regarding the Refinables project, some tests work will have to be done if ECHA doesn't accept our model, which will be expensive.

- b. **Any items related to working conditions or availability of Secretariat officers.** Klaus Rothenbacher informed the Mgt Cttee that he will have to undergo surgery and estimated that he will be six weeks on sick leave. During his absence, the PGM project could be handled by the consultants (RSA, Katrien Arijs), with back up by Johnson Matthey. In terms of management of unplanned expenditures, the Mgt Cttee decided to give a 10 000 euros latitude to Klaus Rothenbacher on making decisions in the PGM project. This would be dependent on proper accounting control and report back to Mgt Committee of such exceptions. Any financial impact of the additional expenditure with RSA (cover for Klaus) for the 2015 budget should be clarified. Klaus Rothenbacher was reminded to take care of his health, speedy recovery and family. Dave Boyd confirmed that he will be available as temporary Trustee until 31 Dec 2014 - hence hiring of a new Secretary General as soon as possible following that date is an imperative for good operation of the consortium.

Post meeting note (1): K. Rothenbacher confirmed that he is on the waiting list for surgery and that a date around the end of November was mentioned. Doctors will try to keep the surgery smaller than initially planned, which would mean a shorter hospital stay and a shorter recovery period. To be confirmed later on.

Post meeting note (2): Katrien Arijs has kindly confirm her availability to act as temporary project coordinator cover.

6. Financial

- a. **Recap on rules for budget set-up and budgetary surveillance, including expense approval per project.** Caroline Braibant and the Mgt Cttee were asked to develop rules for budget set-up, surveillance and expense approval per project. The rules are in place since the summer (cf. slides 18-19 and annex 3).
- b. **Minimum generic reserves for proper liquidation or termination of PMC.** The minimum generic reserves of 167 412 euros necessary for the close down of the PMC office has not yet been allocated in the 2015 budget. The Mgt Cttee expressed some concerns about the reserves of the generic costs which are too low.
- c. **2014 PMC Budget v/s spent + reserves.** The Re reserves cannot be credited back to Re members endlessly in order to ensure that 5 % of the total Re registration project cost is retained as a minimum reserve in-house. The secretariat was asked to confirm the remaining costs for 2014 for projects PGM, Hydrazine and Refinables. The total cost of the Refinables dossier preparation until now has to be calculated, together with a 7,5 % minimum reserve to be retained in-house.

Action: Confirm the remaining costs for PGM, Hydrazine and Refinables for 2014 and adjust the column of estimated reserves by the end of 2014 for these two remaining projects.

Action: Calculate the total cost of the Refinables dossier preparation + the minimum reserve of 7,5 %

Post meeting note (1): The secretariat confirms that the total cost of the Refinables dossier preparation is 1 501 156 euros, and that the 7,5 % minimum reserve is equivalent to 112 587 euros.

Post meeting note (2): It has been confirmed that the 2014 remaining costs for the Hydrazine project will be maximum 35 000 euros.

7. December Assembly Meeting preparation

- a. **Include an interim status update on significant (mainly non-technical) Actions items agreed at 12 June 2014 PMC Assembly meeting.** All actions were finalised, addressed during the meeting, or on-going.

Action: PMC Managers were asked to review budget predictions for 2015. A meeting will be held at the Metals Conference Centre on 24 Oct at 3:00 pm CET with the PMC Chairman in order to finalise the 2015 budget.



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Post meeting note: Caroline Braibant kindly agreed on participating in the above meeting to give the secretariat her historical perspective and to ensure that the secretariat has all the background in hand to present to the General Assembly in December.

- 8. Back-to-back meetings planned for October 8-10 (Working Groups/Experts Groups) - Key objectives**
A short summary of the objectives of the upcoming PGM WG meetings was presented: an update on the ongoing testing programme will be given to the full PGM WG; however due to time reasons, the main focus of the meeting will be on reviewing progress of the exposure scenario development and to agree on next steps. The subsequent PGM tox experts meeting will then conduct a detailed review of the testing programme, assess initial results and discuss the potential impact on the testing strategy, classification, or need for further tests. As regard the Refinables WG meeting, the objectives are as follow: give an update on the outcome of the ECHA workshop on Substance Identity (SID) on 6-7 Oct, and discuss and update the decision tree for SID. An update on ongoing actions for the next dossier update will be given including revision of classification-related compositions and environmental exposure assessment. Future work programme will also be discussed. The Working Group meetings on Precious Metals Cyanides and Gold substances hold on 08 Oct 2014 are catching up with 2 years of project progress at the key moment of starting the assessment of human health and environmental exposure. PMC's target to register by 2016 is realistic according to the updated project work plans - still to be approved by the consultants. The Hydrazine Task Force meeting hold on 08 Oct 2014 is informing on the latest updates on prioritisation: removal from the 6th prioritisation list, future threats and adequate defense.
- 9. Authorisation update: Hydrazine, other future threat prognosis - RN report***
Hydrazine was removed from the 6th prioritisation list mainly on considerations about acceptable workload and ranking (lowest score on the 6th list) but stays under high risk of a new prioritisation as it becomes one of the SVHC with the highest score to be not yet prioritised. The PM sector is willing to substantiate its position that exposure to the substance is low to non-existing in its industry and is initiating an industrial hygiene airborne assessment to do so (estimated completion: May 2015) starting with comparing contractors proposals (action: R. Nicolay); this assessment will also compare any measurable level of Hydrazine with the German OEL recommendation. Removal of PRO uses from the Hydrazine dossier will also be monitored with the Hydrazine Consortium. Other initiatives (draft public consultations' responses...) to prepare for the 7th prioritisation list are on hold until the risk is confirmed. 4 Borate compounds and Lead Monoxide are prioritised on the 6th Recommendation List for REACH Annex XIV. Given the current shortage in PMC resources and the unrealistic timeline for gathering and reaching a consensus on sector-wide socio-economic information for the public consultations (ending Nov 30), the PMC Secretariat will not develop a PM-specific response for these substances and will invite its Members to respond by themselves, advising them on the best course of actions and transferring any relevant information received from EBA (for borates) and ILA (for Lead Monoxide) (action: R. Nicolay). The typical course of actions that will be communicated to PMC Members is:
- PMC Members to confirm the targeted substance(s), its(their) use(s) and its(their) importance in their industrial process (possible substitution or not)
 - Collection of socio-economic information based on ECHA's advised questions
 - Verification of possible exemption based on REACH art. 58(2)
 - Collection of information on the complexity of the supply chain and control of exposure to the substance
 - Write up response to the "SEA" Public Consultation from information collected in point b) and response to the "classic" Public Consultation from info collected in points c) and d)
 - Submit responses on the ECHA website by Nov 30, 2014
- 10. Progress with Ag Task Force, including MoU and prognosis for effective cooperation - KR report***
KR gave an update further to a recent technical meeting with the 'Silver Task Force' of producers of Ag-containing biocides on 5th Sept. 2014. A classification proposal for silver zinc zeolite of Carc. Cat 2 and Repro Cat 1B is due to be published in Q4 2014. All effects were attributed to the Ag ion, so potential knock-on effects on our silver dossiers can be expected. The MC agreed that it will be important for PMC



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to become involved in the process and to submit comments. Several options on how comment were discussed. It was agreed to start to prepare technical comments in order to be ready once the CLH will be published (only 45d window to provide comments). The MC considered it premature to embark on more general comments on the process (harmonization of Reach and BPR) or to embark on advocacy at that stage.

Action: K. Rothenbacher to confirm if resources for reviewing/ commenting (mainly EBRC time) are covered in current budget

11. Possible issue with Ag hazard classification impacted by impure form (specific to one registrant) - KR report*

The potential issue about how to handle the dossier update with an impure AgCl grade is resolved: the registrant has indicated that they will withdraw the registration for this grade. PMC has requested an official tonnage declaration form.

12. PMC membership vs LoA - needs clarification/flexibility

The revised LoA prices have been communicated to former LoA purchasers in October 2014. The Mgt Cttee was asked to brainstorm on whether an existing PMC Member could separately purchase a LoA (e.g. for new substance of interest) as a means to obtain a right to refer to a joint Registration Dossier prepared by PMC. The Mgt Cttee will not support this conflicted approach and will continue to explain the benefits of being part of the Consortium.

13. AOB, next meetings/calls, and closing remarks

- a. **Re-allocation of Caroline Braibant's task in REACH Forum.** This REACH Forum task "Develop a proposal for a token for updates of registration dossiers/joint submission management for REACH-IT". is on hold until a new Sec-Gen is appointed or an alternative proposed by Eurométaux
Action: Renaud Nicolay will contact Eurométaux
- b. **Meeting on 10 Nov in Dortmund to discuss REACH effect on metals industry: should the PM sector be represented?** The Nov 10 German meeting on REACH impacts on Metals industry could be worth attending by the PM sector. [
Action: Roland Brasch (Heraeus) will coordinate with the German PMC Members.
- c. **Potential collaboration with EU project "NanoDestination".** PMC was asked on short notice if there is an interest in joining an EU project "NanoDestination" with nano-silver. The deadline was at the day of this meeting. It was agreed that time was too short to consider joining this at that stage
- d. **Presentation on the Ag evaluation at the Chemicals Watch Supply Chain Workshop.** PMC was asked to make a presentation at the Chemicals Watch Supply Chain Workshop, talking about the success story of the Ag evaluation with the NL. It was agreed to decline the invitation because a) resource constraints, b) the outcome of the evaluation is unknown, so it would be premature to talk about a success story at that stage.

For information:

PGM project: proceeding to changes in its scope, it will be further discussed in PGM WG meeting before informing the Mgt Cttee.

PM cyanides project: drop of Potassium tetrakis (cyanoC) aurate (CAS 14263-59-3). **Action:** R. Nicolay will check if the drop of Potassium Tetrakis(cyanoC)aurate (CAS 14263-59-3) was formally acted within PMC and that no external liabilities remain on PMC

New Eurométaux Experts Pool: The Eurométaux expert pools on SEA and on Evaluation cannot currently be manned with PMC resources due to workforce constraints.

Next meeting/calls. The next Mgt Cttee conference call is scheduled on 6 Nov at 1:00 pm CET, which will address the 2015 budget in particular.



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Annexes:

1. Agenda, including list of participants
2. Slides presented at the meeting
3. Slides on EPMF/PMC budget management

Table 1. Actions agreed at 7 Oct 2014 PMC Mgt Cttee meeting

	What?	Who?	When?
1-	2015 budget for Silver: additional cost of 500 000 euros for two generation studies: - Clarify situation of 2015 budget - Add. costs covered by an exceptional invoice or surcharged the members next year?	K. Rothenbacher Gen. Assembly	24 Oct 2014 3 Dec 2014
2-	Confirm the remaining costs for 2014 for PGM, Hydrazine and Refinables	K. Rothenbacher K. Arijs R. Nicolay	24 Oct 2014
3-	Confirm total cost of Refinables dossier preparation and the 7,5 % minimum reserves	K. Arijs + A. Rondepierre	Done
4-	Review budget predictions for 2015 and participate in the meeting on 24 Oct, 3:00 pm CET	Full PMC secretariat + G. Ethier	24 Oct 2014
5-	Hydrazine: Industrial hygiene airborne assessment starting with comparing contractors proposals	R. Nicolay	Target start for surveys Q1_2015
6-	Invite PMC members to respond to public consultations on 4 borates compounds and Lead Monoxide	R. Nicolay	30 Nov 2014
7-	Ag Task Force: confirm if resources for reviewing/commenting (mainly EBRC time) are covered in current budget	K. Rothenbacher	24 Oct 2014
8-	Re-allocation of C. Braibant's task in REACH Forum: inform Eurometaux that it will stay on hold until a new Sec Gen is appointed or an alternative is proposed by EM	R. Nicolay	As soon as possible
9-	Synchronize with German PMC members for the meeting on 10 Nov in Dortmund on REACH impacts on Metals industry	R. Brasch	10 Nov 2014
10	Change of scope in PGM project: will be discussed with the PGM WG and then the Mgt Cttee	K. Rothenbacher	9 Oct 2014
11	Drop of Potassium tetrakis (cyanoC) aurate: check if the drop was formally acted within PMC and that no external liabilities remain on PMC	R. Nicolay	As soon as possible
12	Organise next Mgt Cttee conf call on Budget on 6 Nov 2014 at 1:00 pm CET	A.Rondepierre	Done