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EUROMETAUX REACH PROGRAMME

Dear REACH Forum member,

This editorial aims at being a peculiar one, the beginning of an essential collection of "positive sparkles" to use and abuse of when you are affected by a dark moment or in case your enthusiasm dries up. This editorial claims to be an anti-Trump tool, a remedy against disappointment, a secret trick to break circular reasoning, some kind of magic to substitute foolishness…overall a belief in what can be done together.
Times are tough for both the idealists and sceptics amongst us, breeding more scary questions than reassuring answers, revealing Europe's and the world's peace threatened by individualism and self-protection, providing us daily with loads of absurdity and unfairness.
We have no choice however than to continue, trying to make the best of our time without falling into the trap of discouragement and cynicism or a convenient silence. Our colleague Mari would say: "If you are going to walk on thin ice, you might as well dance."
Thus, to give the dance the most beautiful scene, please find herewith:

- *Christmas lights illuminating the streets with a cup of Finnish glögi to warm up your hands*



- *A UK- made sweater showing " I ❤ EU and could not miss its/it is functioning"*
- *Katrien Delbeke's smile*



- *A ball with Bambi and snowflakes you can shake every time the new US President makes a statement*



- *A wise sentence to use when you don't know what to answer: "Complexity is the measure of sophistication in the expression of the set of positive characteristics."*
- *Happy kid's eyes looking at a fake Father Christmas without questioning its existence*
- *Irrepressible laughs in a metro*
- *"Sun in your pocket" to keep the warmth and the move*
- *And a 3 minutes stand-up ovation for you, at the best moment for you*

Happy December!

Violaine Verougstraete, EHS director Eurometaux

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ECHA COMMITTEES

SEAC-33: ***a highly productive meeting with a long series of Authorisations and interesting learning lessons from new Restriction cases***

SEAC-33 discussions were dominated by a long series of ongoing and new Authorisation cases, many on different chromate salts. They further contributed to the fast growing learning expertise on what level to best organise an Application for Authorisation (AfA), what SEA model to choose and how to handle uncertainties in defining the final Review Period. In a new case on diglyme, SEAC confirmed that substances having equal hazard categories but present on the Candidate List or fitting the SVHC criteria could not be withheld in the AoA as a valuable technical feasible alternative. A most interesting and precedent setting new Restriction case concerned the use of diisocyanates in the production of polyurethane. The submitting country (Germany) stated that the substance (use) cannot be missed in society, thus an exposure risk reduction strategy was proposed instead of a ban. Companies may only use the substance if they demonstrate having minimised the risk, apply a strict code of handling and maintenance and conduct mandatory repeated training. Most countries seemed interested in this new concept but a couple felt that an EU-wide OEL would be a better alternative. As this case may set interesting precedents for substances with uses limited to industrial work settings only and for which no EU-wide OEL exists, it attracted industry's attention. The proposed restriction of 4 phthalates in plastic raised broad interest as it includes both a suggested derogation for articles under RoHS and a SEA benefit assessment and monetisation (restricted to health and environmental endpoints) showing clear benefits when exposure is reduced. The case also provided a first way forward on how to assess the impact on recycling (based on costs of the replacement of secondary- by primary non-contaminated material) (more information: Hugo Waeterschoot).

RAC-39 A: ***full week of discussions on Authorisation Applications (AfAs) and Restriction***

RAC met for a first week to discuss a number of AfAs on diglyme, chromates and EDC but also a restriction on diisocyanates, which shall not be used/placed on the market as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures for industrial and professional uses, unless cumulative concentration is <0.1 % by weight, or that the employer or self-employed worker ensures that measures and trainings are taken prior to their use. RAC concluded that the Restriction proposal was not conform as the proposed RMOs in their current form do not to allow a sufficiently independent evaluation by RAC in terms of effectiveness regarding risk reduction capacity and practicality and monitorability. On the submitted AfAs, RAC discussed in depth what to do when information provided by the applicant remains so insufficient that a fair assessment of exposure and Risk Management Measures in some uses cannot be performed, even after several requests from ECHA and Rapporteurs were channelled to the applicants. Multiplying conditions associated to an authorisation or recommending shorter Review Periods present some limitations too when it comes to consistency and improving the overall Authorisation system. On metals, the work plan presented by ECHA confirmed that end of Q1 and Q2 will see the start of the Public Consultations on lead and lead compounds in stabilisers and shots (wet land) respectively. The CLH proposal submitted by France requesting that potassium permanganate to be classified as Repro 1B; H360Df resulted in classifying the substance as Repro 2 for both fertility and development after thorough discussions of the weaknesses of the available studies, the link between corrosivity and observed effects and the reference to data on other manganese compounds.

Finally, RAC got updated on two topics of interest in the context of the REACH/OSH discussion: on the general OEL DNEL methodology: there have been a number of meetings involving SCOEL and the RAC Taskforce. The first meetings seem to reveal that resources injected in the work required by the Commission's mandate were different from a SCOEL and RAC point of view, thus delaying the start of the actual analysis of differences in commonalities in assessing inhalation and dermal exposure. It's only at the November meeting that in-depth discussions could actually take place, illustrating differences in approaches when it comes to inhalation (priority given to the Point of Departure for example), but possible complementarity between the SCOEL skin notation and a REACH dermal DNEL. A next meeting is scheduled for mid-December and the Joint Taskforce shall finalise the work (report) by end of February. The report will go to RAC for approval (either by written procedure or discussed during the plenary meeting in March). The difficulties in dynamics and in particular the fact that we may mainly reach an 'agreement to disagree' also appeared in the context of the discussions on NMP (other article 95(3) mandate). The Commission has indeed asked RAC and SCOEL to finalise and submit a "Joint Report" but it appears that the latter will include separate sections and disclaimers, with unsatisfied Taskforce members. The ball is now in Commission's camp but further steps need to be carefully monitored as those have an impact on the CII activities and the Article 58(2) debate (more information: Violaine Verougstraete).

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ECHA MEETINGS

ENES 10: *taking stock of the past, organising the future*

The Exchange Network on Exposure Scenarios (ENES) met on 15-16 November in Helsinki to further discuss tools and approaches aiming at improving the communication in the supply chain. The first session described the tools available under the CSR/ES Roadmap supporting the way towards good quality information on the safe use of chemicals, like use maps (their availability/sector and the experience gained with their development and use), Chesar (how it helps in transferring use map information from downstream user sectors into registrants' assessments), ESCOM and mixtures information. Eurometaux made a presentation on how improved information included pro-actively can help registrants more convincingly demonstrate the control of risk to authorities, based on the 'self-reflection exercise described in the industry 'RMOa' guidance. A second session addressed the key findings and recommendations from a recent evaluation of the CSR/ES Roadmap and ENES activities and tried to identify, based on the main 'lessons" how the future Programme might look regarding action and governance. Critical questions to be considered in this context included for example: a) how to improve realistically the outreach mechanisms to improve awareness of the ENES/Roadmap tools beyond the current ENES core community?, b) how to convince companies to invest in changing current procedures/structures or set up new ones?, c) can co-ordination between the principal Roadmap actors i.e. ECHA, Industry (M/I), Industry (DUCC) be improved in their communications and dissemination of the ENES tools? And d) who are the key missing actors? The Eurometaux ES Taskforce will further analyse the conclusions of the workshop and define possible actions in this context. The presentations are available at: https://echa.europa.eu/news-and-events/events/event-details/-/journal_content/56_INSTANCE_DR2i/title/tenth-meeting-of-enes (more information: Kate Belska and Violaine Verougstraete).

OTHERS

Bioelution Expert Group: *a first challenging webinar*

ECHA organised a first call of the Bioelution Experts Group on 4 November, circulating in advance some slides on the scope of the work to be carried out as well as some proposed timelines for delivering a report. Although ECHA had clearly announced that this group is expected to primarily discuss the scientific and technical aspects on how to use bioelution in the context of CLP -and not to repeat more regulatory or political discussions taking place at CARACAL or PARERE, some Member States experts could not resist the temptation to reiterate policy/political arguments, contesting Commission's legal analysis of CLP articles 6(3) and 12(b). An additional difficulty that affected the dynamics of this first call is that the group consists of experts with variable backgrounds, involvement and knowledge of the 'bioavailability' issue and that ECHA did not have the time beforehand to share preparatory material. In follow-up of the call, Eurometaux sent a letter to Commission and ECHA communicating their concerns on the repetition of the policy debates, wondering how to best prepare the next step, i.e. the face-to-face meeting that will take place in Helsinki on 25 January. This letter triggered immediate reactions from ECHA and Commission, trying to find ways forward. One of the resulting actions was the preparation of a package of information material for the group, put together with the help of members the Bioelution taskforce. This package has been posted by ECHA on CIRCABC. Eurometaux also volunteered to contribute to the drafting tasks of the different work areas identified by ECHA and proposed to take the lead if no other volunteer was available (more information: Adriana Oller and Violaine Verougstraete).

Enforcement activities: *ECHA forum launches major project on classification and labelling of mixtures – 2018 inspections*

At the 25th ECHA Forum plenary meeting (8-10November 2016) national enforcement authorities (NEAs) determined the subject of its sixth major coordinated enforcement project REACH-EN-FORCE-6 (REF-6). This project will focus on the classification and labelling of mixtures including the check of relevant parts of the SDS. NEAs might also, optionally, check CLP obligations: notifications to the C&L Inventory, application of harmonised classification, and labelling exemptions. The project will be prepared in 2017 and inspections will take place in 2018. Publication of the report is expected near the end of 2019 (more information: Lorenzo Zullo).

COMMISSION REACH activities: hot topics/issues

CARACAL

Follow-up CARACAL October 2016: *call and follow-up letter on labelling of massive metals*

Hazardous metals or alloys in the massive form can be exempted from labelling if reasonable foreseeable use does not lead to potential exposures of relevance to the concerned endpoints (e.g. inhalation toxicity or skin sensitisation). At the last CARACAL meeting, Austria raised the case of a metal manufacturer who had not demonstrated nor documented the lack of exposure for

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relevant endpoints to not label the massive form of the metal. He had justified the absence of labelling by referring to the 1 mm default for massive that comes from the CLP environmental classification ruling. At CARACAL, industry confirmed that the exemption of labelling requires proof and documentation in the SDS. Several countries provided vigilant comments in the written follow-up responses to CARACAL, often demonstrating a lack of understanding on the difference between the exemption from labelling for hazardous massive forms and the default of 1 mm triggering a different classification entry for massive. Countries asked for new and sometimes also stricter guidance on the issue. A call was organised within the metal sector to prepare a response to CARACAL in which industry re-explained the history of the issue and the differences between the labelling and classification aspects, suggesting thereby that no new guidance is needed. The letter to CARACAL further provided good practice examples and committed to conduct a communication programme within the metals sector to promote the correct application of existing ruling and guidance (more information: Lorenzo Zullo and Hugo Waeterschoot).

OTHERS

Workshop on "Acceptable level of risk to workers and consumers exposed to carcinogenic substances" on 22 November 2016

The workshop organised by the European Commission was intended to discuss how to determine acceptable levels of exposure and related risks for workers and the general public in order to have a coherent approach for different substances and to try to reconcile them. The agenda can be found at (http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8936&lang=en). The audience was composed of Member States, trade unions, industry and other stakeholders' representatives. Current approaches on non-threshold substances were presented by RIVM and BAuA (i.e. traffic light approach). The German chemical/pharmaceutical industry (VCI), raised attention to the effectiveness of training and targeted control strategies in reducing workers' exposure and accidents. Specific examples on metals were presented by Dr Martin Wieske, who focused on communication of risk from carcinogenic substances to workers. The afternoon session was dedicated mainly to consumers' perspective. The EU Commission stressed the need to understand potency quantification and set substance-specific priorities. ECHA and SCOEL are looking at the scientific aspect (methodology) and results are expected soon. Broader work on improving the overall interface between REACH and OSH (not just on limit values) is proceeding but not as fast as expected: the workshop foreseen in January 2017 is therefore postponed. On consumers, further discussion between various EU Commission DGs, ECHA and EFSA is foreseen. The workshop was considered to be the beginning - not the end - of an extensive discussion (more information: Lorenzo Zullo).

EUROMETAUX REACH activities: hot topics/issues

RESOURCE MAPPING TO RESPOND TO REACH / ECHA CHALLENGES

Authorisation and Restriction Platform meeting: *stimulating challenges and new guidance presented by Richard Dubourg*

The Eurometaux Authorisation and Restriction platform met on 16 November. The agreed MSC and ECHA opinions on the 7th list, that include 4 Pb compounds and 2 perborates were a major point and were analysed in detail with particular emphasis on the interpretation of Article 58 (2). This article allows for an exemption on the Authorisation requirement if alternative substance specific - and EU–wide - Risk Management measures are implemented. The A&R concluded that ECHA probably extended the interpretation and conditions for such an exemption far beyond the REACH legal requirements and agreed on the development and implementation of an advocacy plan to be carried out in close cooperation with ILA and the Pb battery sector. Dorothea Steiger provided an insight in the outcome of the Nordenham Board of Appeal case that is of crucial importance for the interpretation of the intermediate status of metal compound carrier- materials like Pb. The A&R further welcomed and appreciated the presentation by Richard Dubourg (former ECHA socio-economist and now consultant for The Economics Interface) on several new important guidance documents that are crucial to improve the SEA assessment part of Restrictions (Willingness to Pay Reference values, Unemployment Impact assessment and Boundaries of the SEA assessment in case of impacts outside the EU). During that meeting, the A&R also kicked off the discussion on how to best get organised for Authorisation so as to ensure efficiency and avoid duplication for industry. The Secretariat suggested different options to be debated with the companies during Q1 2017. Finally, the A&R also debated and agreed upon an action plan for 2017 focusing on further advocacy on the Recycling and Authorisation project, the update of the Industry RMOa guidance, advocacy and support on the Article 58 (2) review and AfA activities (more information: France Capon, Klaus Kamps, Violaine Verougstraete, Lorenzo Zullo and Hugo Waeterschoot).

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Evaluation Platform meeting: ***recent legal cases on evaluation and the EOGRTS testing scheme debated in detail***

The second meeting this year of the Eurometaux Evaluation platform took place on 17 November. One of the centrepiece items presented by Kai Melzer related to the recent BoA case on the interpretation of Article 14. The BoA concluded that the requirement to prepare Exposure Assessments and Risk Characterisations are not limited to the hazard classes or categories for which the substance meets the classification criteria! EAs and RCs for all endpoints are required when one of the ecotoxicity or toxicity hazards listed in Article 14 (4) is met. Consortia were invited to check the consequences of this decision. A second major agenda item related to the Extended One Generation Reprotoxicity Test (EOGRTS) whereby Eurometaux explained how to react and what to consider/plan for, when receiving decisions from the Commission to update the Testing Proposals within 90 days. The Evaluation platform took note of ECHA's invitation to review the Environmental RAAF and agreed to participate in the review (see further). One of the platform's major added-values consists in the exchange of experiences on Testing Proposals, Dossier and Substance Evaluations. These included, amongst others, i2a's learning lessons about a careful review of the read-across for SbIII & V forms and consequences for the repro assessment, the challenges with the ongoing ecotoxicity testing programme of the Ag nano forms (Substance Evaluation), read-across building for "thionites & sulfides", IMOA's experience with CCs of dossier evaluations for UVCBs and mono-constituents, the difficulty of the Co-consortium with overlapping planning of CCs and TPs for several Co compounds. The meeting ended with a summary of work plan items for 2017 focusing on the support of the future Metal Sectorial approach (KPIs on good dossier quality) and ensuring the learning platform basis (more information: Kate Belska, Noömi Lombaert, Violaine Verougstraete, Lorenzo Zullo and Hugo Waeterschoot).

ECHA released the ENV RAAF for consultation: ***Eurometaux and its members commit to review it***

As a direct result of the 30 August workshop on the possible setup of the metals sectorial approach, ECHA circulated the Environmental Read-Across Assessment Framework (ENV RAAF) for a short commenting round by industry. The ENV RAAF framework and guidance are intended for ECHA and Member State assessors of the read-across assumptions included by industry in the dossiers. The structure of the ENV RAAF is for consistency reasons similar to the one for the Human Health RAAF thus allowing to build on this experience. Despite the very short timeframe, several commodities picked up the challenge to review the ENV RAAF and checked with existing metal data sets if the categories and scoring would fit the metals case. The reviewers' conference call indicated that the timeframe worked but that more metal/inorganic specificity and probably an example are needed to ensure that metals would be treated on an equal footing with organics. On that basis Eurometaux will prepare an input for ECHA (more information: Hugo Waeterschoot).

CII: ***meeting with Friends of the Earth***

In June 2016 the REFIT platform published an opinion on the submission by the Cross Industry Initiative (CII) on the interface between REACH and the EU Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) legislation. This opinion seemed to have partially misunderstood the purpose of the CII initiative. A meeting with Ms Stoczkiewicz, Director of Friends of the Earth and Rapporteur of the REFIT Platform stakeholder group, was organised on 3 November to stress the fact that CII is not about de-regulation, but more about proportionate application of available tools (i.e. OSH legislation). Ms Stoczkiewicz seemed to have understood the message; she also underlined that, in line with CII needs, the Commission plans to issue a Common Understanding explaining a) the interface between REACH and OSH, b) that several evaluations in this area will be concluded during 2017 and c) assess the need for further action. The next steps include a meeting with Tony Musu (EU Trade Union Institute) on 5 December (more information: Kai-Sebastian Melzer and Lorenzo Zullo).

Cobalt CLH Taskforce: ***a first meeting***

The Cobalt CLH Taskforce met on 18 November for an information event reviewing the state of play of the draft Cobalt metal CLH proposal and discussing possible ways forward to mitigate the impacts of the proposed classifications and SCLs. All participants were invited to express the main issues they would be facing if the Dutch proposal were to be supported by RAC and included as such in Annex VI of the CLP. The learning lessons from previous CLH cases, in particular lead metal were presented as well as the CDI/CoRC's positions on each of the endpoints' classifications (reproductive toxicity, mutagenicity, carcinogenicity) as proposed by The Netherlands. Over the last months, CDI/CoRC has started to map the direct and indirect consequences based on a survey: whilst up to now, it has mainly been the proposed SCL for carcinogenicity (0.01%) that has triggered attention, participants have been asked to also reflect about the consequences of the mutagenicity and reproductive toxicity proposals. The group discussed what could be done: can we have concentration limits for carcinogenicity (SCL of 0.01% for cobalt in powder form, GCL of 0.1% for cobalt in massive form) and can we advance the regulatory acceptability of bioelution test data (and bioaccessible concentration) for the classification of cobalt-containing alloys and complex mixtures instead of using nominal concentrations? The Taskforce agreed on a timeline and on regular conference calls as well as on a series of actions. Those include for example the preparation of an executive summary for the high level senior management to help with internal communication and resources and a detailed communication on what to submit in the Public Consultation once it will start. The draft minutes have been circulated to the Cobalt CLH Taskforce (more information: Ruth Danzeisen, Carol Pettit, Brigitte Amoruso, Paul Marsh, Lorenzo Zullo and Violaine Verougstraete).

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IUCLID and CHESAR training: *23-24 November*

A one and a half day of training was organized to present the updated IUCLID 6 and Chesar 3 and their new features. The training was split into a guided tour of the tools during the first day and a "hands-on" session the following morning. During the first day, practical information about differences between IUCLID 5 and IUCLID 6 were given, together with information on new requirements or new possibilities to better report substance identity, on how to use the assessment entity functionality and solve potential issues occurring during migration of existing files from IUCLID 5. Chesar 3 was presented along its step-by-step box structure and introducing the connection with IUCLID 6. The presentation clarified that these tools are very different in scope and structure: IUCLID 6 is a database, from which hazard data are taken in order to perform the risk assessment where substance characteristics have to be reported clearly and precisely, whereas Chesar 3 is a rather transparent modelling tool that allows developing ES, generating CSR and generating ES for communication to be annexed to the eSDS. The hands-on session was particularly interesting as real metal cases were used through IUCLID 6 and Chesar 3, allowing participants to better understand the functionalities of the tools (more information: Federica Iaccino, Arne Burzlaff, Maxime Eliat and Daniel Vetter).

Further analysis of the RAC dose-responses*: advice asked to the DDREG*

Over the summer, a group of DNELs-Dose-Response Enthusiasts analysed the different dose-responses and DNELs derived by RAC over the last years using a common template. After a call in August a subgroup of volunteers prolonged the analysis by examining more in detail some questions like data handling, use of human data, consideration of a practical threshold etc. The outcomes of the analysis were presented to the Risk Assessment and Classification Taskforce on 11 October. The Taskforce was invited to discuss what to do with the outcomes of the work: a) use this analysis to do capacity building to prepare (industry) for the next DNELs/Dose-responses, b) make a publication to raise awareness on RAC's conservatism or make further proposals (e.g. to RAC Chair etc.) to improve those derivations? The A&R platform also made a proposal end of September. As different views were expressed it was agreed to re-consult the DDREG to agree on a common way forward, considering resources and possible impacts. Ensure that that materials obtained from the analysis can be made available to Consortia that may be impacted in the future was clearly supported by the group. Other recommendations made included to consult an expert or independent person to double-check or verify what has been done and/or work with and through other sectors like ECETOC, make proposals to RAC for a consistent framework/template to provide to consultants etc. Eurometaux will assess the modalities required to implement the recommendations of the DDREG and inform the relevant groups about the next steps (more information: Adriana Oller, Ruth Danzeisen and Violaine Verougstraete).

METAL-SPECIFIC REACH APPLICATION TOOLS AND CONCEPTS

Bioelution: *submission of package of material and contacts with EuPC*

In addition to the package of material submitted to ECHA, which included a document summarising the alloys' classification issue "in a nutshell", a glossary and updated one-pagers on themes like correlation in vitro-in vivo or the comparison between the bioaccessibility-based approach and the CLP default approach, Eurometaux sent several zip files containing copies of relevant publications to ECHA as well as a list of further references. In parallel, Eurometaux had also a very constructive exchange with EuPC, also member of the Bioelution Experts Group. Furthermore EuPC is very interested in the applicability of bioaccessibility tests for their materials and proposed to support the metals work by providing input e.g. on the fact that bioelution is to be considered a worst case estimation for biological availability (more information: Adriana Oller, Federica Iaccino and Violaine Verougstraete).

COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

Dusseldorf: *metals REACH and CLP learning lessons as well as looking forward*

Eurometaux spoke at the REACH Congress conference in Dusseldorf on 9 November, presenting recent metal specific learning lessons and experiences with CLP and REACH. Classification aspects such as the lung overload for inert particles (TiO2), the SCL for massive versus power lead and bioelution work were shortly reviewed as well as learning lessons from authorisation, the inorganic UVCB assessment scheme and the recent OECD guidance on incorporation of bioavailability assessment. Preliminary learnings from the nanosilver case were also shared. Eurometaux raised further attention for forward looking aspects that need a pragmatic resolution like combined toxicity and Man via the Environment assessments in the context of authorisation. Eurometaux finally stressed the importance to improve the relevance of selecting cases for RMM by using materials flow and diffuse sources analysis. While the conference was clearly less attended by authorities than in previous years, it provided some interesting insights amongst others on the potential impact of Brexit and legal reviews on the outcome of recent BoA and General Court of Justice cases (more information: Marie Gorkem, Caroline Braibant or Hugo Waeterschoot).

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Breakfast Briefing "Impact of REACH Authorisation: Costs and benefits of REACH Authorisation": ***EM participation***

The Nickel Institute sponsored an interesting breakfast briefing at the European Parliament well attended by politicians, regulators as well as industry (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vk7h914d3E), (http://www.reach-metals.eu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=217&Itemid=329). Key speakers included several MEPs, DG Grow (Klaus Berend) and ECHA (Matti Vainio) all on the theme of the cost and impact of authorisation schemes. While the assessments of the benefits of the REACH authorisation scheme were widely different between Industry and regulators, all agreed that a reduction of workplace exposure is certainly important for the metals sector and a key point of attention in particular for the plating sector. Industry raised attention for the commercial, micro- and macroeconomic consequences of the authorisation scheme, in particular the consequences of the substitution requirement. On the contrary, ECHA and DG Grow stated that the impact is less than industry indicated. Moreover, it was stressed that reapplication is possible and certainly feasible if substitutes would not be technically and/or economically feasible. Despite these differences the breakfast session showed that both parties are open to listen to each other's concern allowing to consider better solutions for the future (more information: Veronique Steukers, Kai Melzer and Hugo Waeterschoot).

Further outreach of REACH

OECD

BIAC meeting in preparation of the Joint OECD Meeting: ***more attention for the longer term picture***

BIAC, the industry representation vis-à-vis OECD always meets in advance of the OECD Joint Meeting to agree upon interventions and common positions for the Joint Chemicals Meeting. The latter is a high oversight group defining the strategy and priorities for the different Chemicals Management Task Forces and projects. The EU metals sector prepared both very well through a preparatory conference call with the REACH members and annotated agenda as well as with summary inputs for BIAC for some key agenda items. Most relevant for the metals sector this time are the announced revisions of the OECD Council Acts on PRTR and Hazard assessment to better align the mandate and objectives provided by the Council Acts with the present activities of the OECD Task Forces. A second group of agenda points that raised interest and attention related to continued work on RMM and SEA guidance development in close cooperation with ECHA and a third one the start of a longer term vision forming on Chemical Management beyond 2020. Eurometaux and ICMM attended a dinner session with the OECD secretariat during which Bob Diderich suggested that the EU-metals sector consider supporting a potential pilot case on how to develop effective risk management by industry for the global perspective. ICMM attended the OECD Joint meeting. We will report back on the outcome as soon as we receive their report (more information: Hugo Waeterschoot).

Calendar

- **28 November – 2 December**: RAC-39A – ECHA (Helsinki)
- **28 November – 2 December**: SEAC-33B – ECHA (Helsinki)
- **7-9 December**: RAC-39B – ECHA – (Helsinki)
- **12-16 December**: MSC-51 – ECHA (Helsinki)
- **21 December:** REACH Forum Meeting – MCC (Brussels)

Acronyms

ACROSS: ECHA Integrated Substance Screening Tool	MoD: Manual of Decisions
AfA: Application for Authorisation	MSC: Member States Committee
A&R: Authorisation and Restriction	MvE: Man via the Environment
AoA: Assessment of Alternatives (REACH)	NeRSAP: Network of REACH Socio-Economic and Assessment of Alternative Practitioners
BAUA: Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	NEAs: National Enforcement Authorities
BIAC: Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD	NMP: 1-Methyl-2pyrrolidone
BoA : Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (Germany)	OECD: Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development

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CARACAL: Competent Authorities on REACH and CLP Regulations	OEL: Occupational Exposure Limit
CC: Compliance Check	OSH: Occupational Safety Health
C&L: Classification & Labelling	PARERE: Preliminary Assessment of Regulatory Relevance
CII: Cross Industry Initiative	PBT: Persistent, Bio-accumulative and Toxic Chemicals
CLH: Harmonised Classification and Labelling process	PRTR: Pollutants release and Transfer Register
CLP: Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation	RAAF: Read-Across Assessment Framework
CoRAP: Community Action Rolling Plan	RAC: Risk Assessment Committee (ECHA)
CSR: Chemical Safety Report (REACH)	RC: Risk Characterisation
DDREG: DNEL Dose Response Enthusiasts Group	REFIT: Regulatory Fitness & Performance Programme (EU)
DNEL: Derived No Effect Level	RET: Releases Estimation Techniques
DUCC: Downstream Users of Chemicals Co-ordination	RIVM: National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (The Netherlands)
EA: Exposure Assessment	RMM: Risk Management Measures
ECETOC: European Centre for Ecotoxicology and Toxicology of Chemicals	RMOa: Risk Management Option analysis
ECVAM: European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Testing Methods	RMO: Risk Management Options
ED: Endocrine Disruptor	RoHS: Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Directive 2002/96/EC)
EDC: Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals	SEA: Socio-Economic Assessment
EFSA: European Food Safety Authority	SCL: Specific Concentration Limit
ENES: Exchange Network on Exposure Scenarios	SCOEL: Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits (EU)
ENV RAAF: Environmental Read-Across Assessment Framework	SDS : Safety Data Sheet
EOGRTS: Extended One-Generation Reprotoxicity Test	SE: Substance Evaluation
ES: Exposure Scenarios (REACH)	SEA: Socio-Economic Analysis
ESCOM: Standard phrases for communication	SEAC: Socio-Economic Analysis Committee (ECHA)
eSDS: Extended Safety Data Sheets	SETAC: Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
ESR: Existing Substances Regulation	SID: Substance Identity
EuPC: European Plastics Converters	SIP: Substance Identification Profile
GCL: Generic Concentration Limit	SSD: Sunset Date
IARC: International Agency for Research on Cancer	STO: Stakeholder Observer
ICMM: International Council on Mining and Metals	SVHC: Substance of very High Concern
IUCLID: International Uniform Chemicals Information Database	TP: Testing Proposal
KPI: Key Performance Indicators	(i)UVCB: (inorganic)Unknown or Variable Composition, Complex Reaction Products and Biological Materials
LAD: Latest Application Date	VCI: Verband der Chemischen Industrie

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