



Reference:

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ECHA update – Authorisation, Restriction & new tasks

7th ESA REACH workshop (online)

2 June 2026

Simone DOYLE

Head of Restrictions and Risk Assessment Unit
European Chemicals Agency



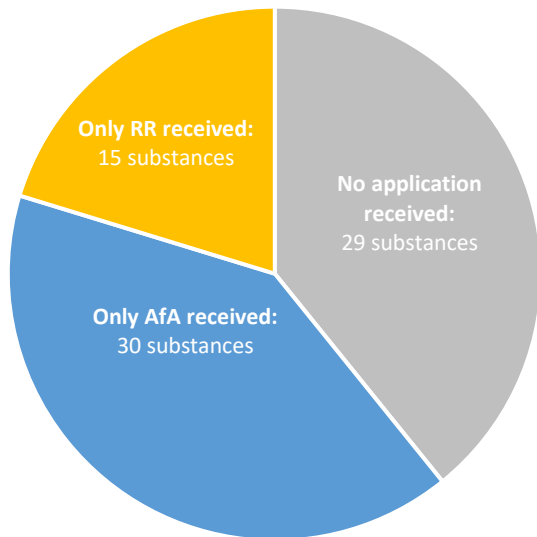
Content

- REACH Authorisation process
- Restriction proposal on aromatic brominated flame retardants
- Ongoing opinion development on restrictions
- New risk management tasks for ECHA

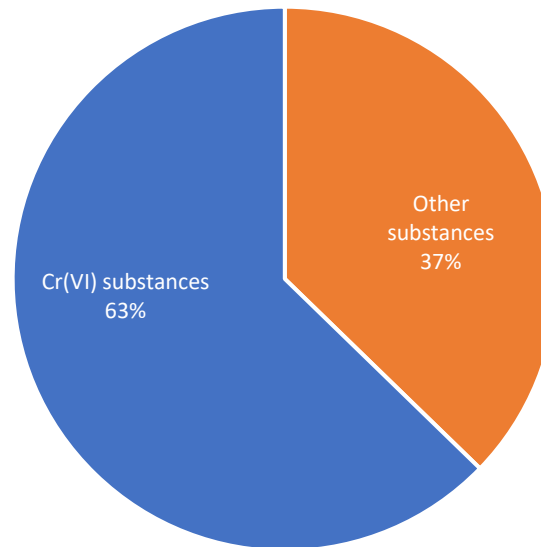
Latest news from REACH
Authorisation:
Focus on Cr(VI) substances

Half of Annex XIV substances applied for...

Applications received for Annex XIV substances

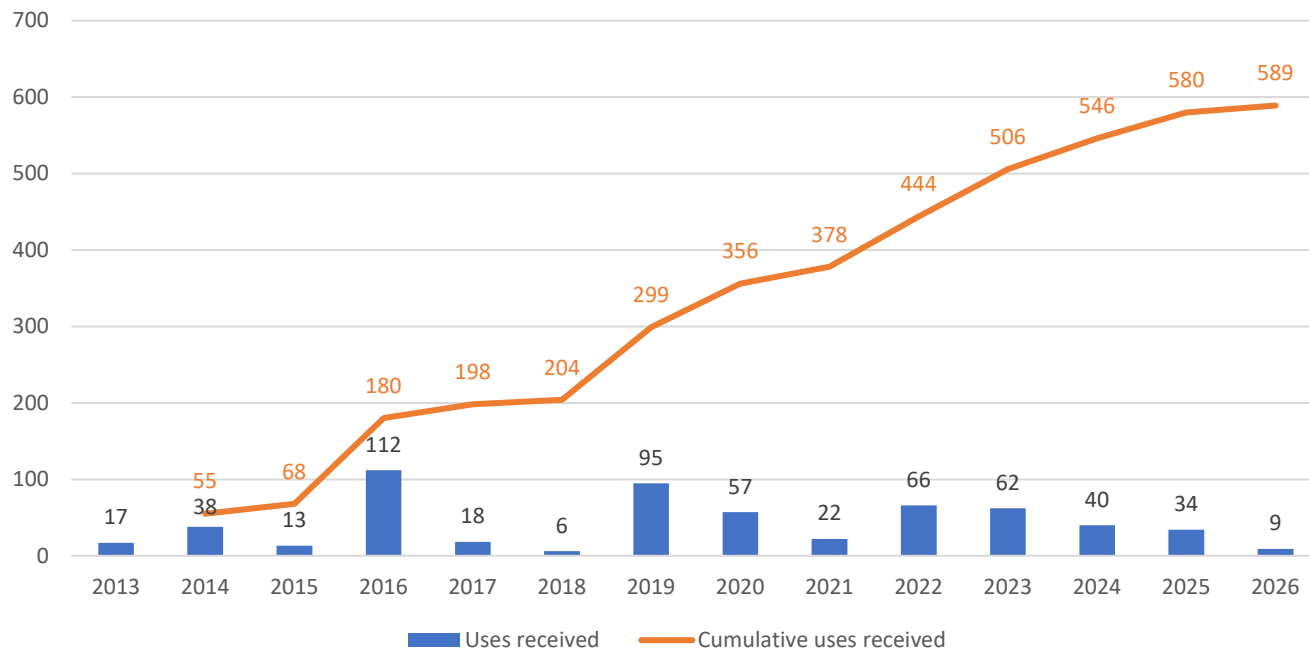


Uses applied for
(644 uses)



... Cr(VI) substances in majority

Status of applications in the process



Situation as of 20/05/2026

Latest developments

- As of Jan 2026, ECHA has suspended the processing of pending or new Cr(VI) AfAs and RRs
 - See [COM's Q&As](#)
- ECHA continues to process non-Cr(VI) review reports (OPE/NPE, TCE, DBP, MOCA)
 - < 15 opinions per year
- ECHA to keep the process fit to receive new AfAs as soon as new substances are added to Annex XIV

Ongoing restriction
development on aromatic
brominated flame retardants
(ABFRs)

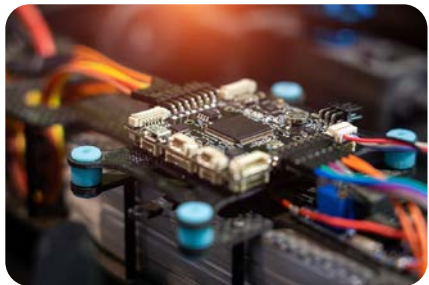
Restriction development on ABFRs - mandate

- **Mandate:** ECHA was requested by the European Commission to prepare:
 1. **A restriction proposal** on certain non-polymeric aromatic brominated flame retardants (ABFRs), and
 2. **An investigation report** on organophosphorus flame retardants and potential alternatives to certain non-polymeric ABFRs (to be delivered in two parts)
- ECHA also tasked to prepare two interim reports
 1. **PBT/vPvB assessment of other ABFRs:** to evaluate if the available information is sufficient to conclude on PBT/vPvB properties of ABFRs other than those specifically mentioned in mandate
 2. **A report assessing** the feasibility of including in the scope of the restriction proposal any substance belonging to the chemical group of non-polymeric ABFRs that will be subject in the future to a harmonised classification
- Based on interim reports: Commission may decide to amend mandate

Product types in scope of the restriction mandate

Three product types:

- Electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) in scope of RoHS
- Construction products as defined by Construction Products Regulation
- Textile products as defined in Textiles Regulation



State of play

- Call for Evidence to gather information on socio-economic impacts of the restriction and alternatives: **21 January – 18 March 2026**
- Webinar on the Call for Evidence (scope and information sought) held on **29 January**
- Additional information being gathered through follow up communication with stakeholders
- Consultation with Enforcement Forum members on the availability of analytical methods: **20 May – 22nd June**
- Interim reports delivered to the Commission in May
- Annex XV proposal and first part of the investigation report due in **December 2026**
- Second part of the investigation report due in **December 2027**



Ongoing opinion making on
restriction proposals

PFAS restriction proposal – overview

- Submitted by NL, DE, DK, SE, NO in January 2023
- Scope:
 - All PFAS (non-degradable)
 - Manufacture and placing on the market
 - All uses (14 sectors assessed in detail)
- Restriction report **consultation**:
 - March – September 2023
 - More than 5 600 comments
- **Updated restriction report**: June 2025
 - Update based on comments from the consultation and Committees' evaluation, including eight additional sectors



Committees' evaluation (1/3) – state of play

- **2 March:** RAC adopted opinion
- **10 March:** SEAC agreed *draft* opinion
- Opinions include sector-specific evaluations on **PFAS manufacturing + 14 sectors:**
 - Ski wax
 - Cosmetics
 - Consumer mixtures and miscellaneous consumer articles
 - Metal plating and manufacture of metal products
 - Petroleum and mining
 - Food contact materials (FCM) and packaging
 - Textiles, upholstery, leather, apparel, carpets (TULAC)
 - Construction products
 - Applications of fluorinated gases
 - Transport
 - Medical devices
 - Energy
 - Lubricants
 - Electronics and semiconductors



Committees' evaluation (2/3) – state of play

- **Eight additional sectors** assessed by the dossier submitter based on comments from the restriction report consultation
 - Printing applications
 - Sealing applications
 - Machinery applications
 - Other medical applications
 - Military applications
 - Explosives
 - Technical textiles
 - Broader industrial uses
- Committees have taken these into account but did not carry out detailed sector-specific evaluations



RAC opinion – conclusions



Confirms **PFAS hazards and risks**, e.g. persistence, bio-accumulation, mobility, certain health issues.



Considers that current regulatory measures are **not sufficient** to control the emissions → further EU-wide restriction is needed



If **derogations** are eventually granted, they should come with additional risk management measures, including:



- Labelling, safe use and disposal instructions and effective supply chain communication by suppliers
- Site-specific PFAS management plans, to be established by manufacturers and industrial users of PFAS
- Reporting requirements for manufacturers, importers and industrial downstream users

SEAC *draft* opinion – conclusions



Considers a ban with **use-specific derogations** is the most appropriate EU measure to address the identified risks, based on socio-economic proportionality.



Supports RAC on additional risk management measures for derogated uses, but...

- cannot conclude on their proportionality.
- has some concerns about enforceability (guidance might help).



Recommends evaluation of **all uses in eight additional sectors** as soon as possible.



- In the meantime, a time-limited derogation for all uses within those sectors.

[Webinar on opinions – 7 May 2026](#)

Committees' evaluation (3/3) – state of play



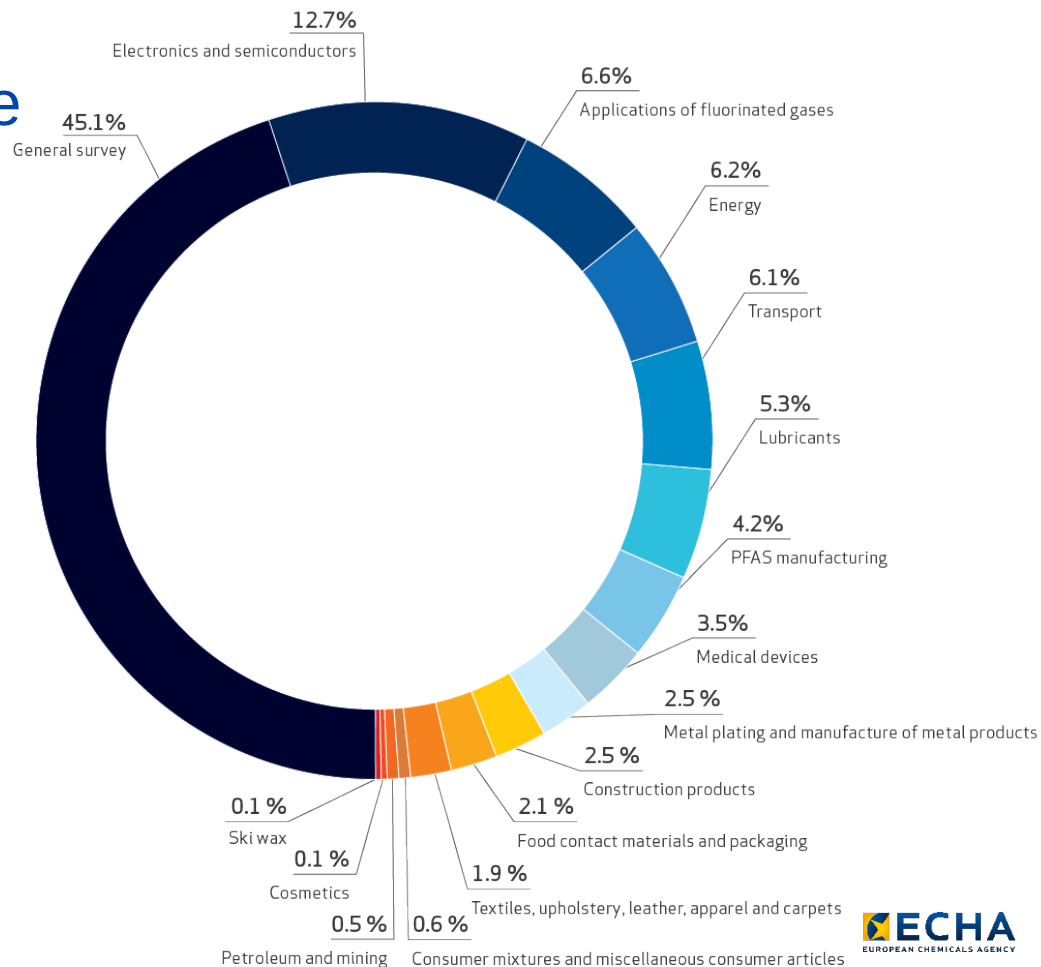
- 60-day consultation on SEAC's *draft* opinion concluded **25 May**
- Focus: content of the *draft* opinion
- Covers **full scope** of the proposal
- SEAC final opinion by end 2026

[All Documents available through ECHA CHEM](#)

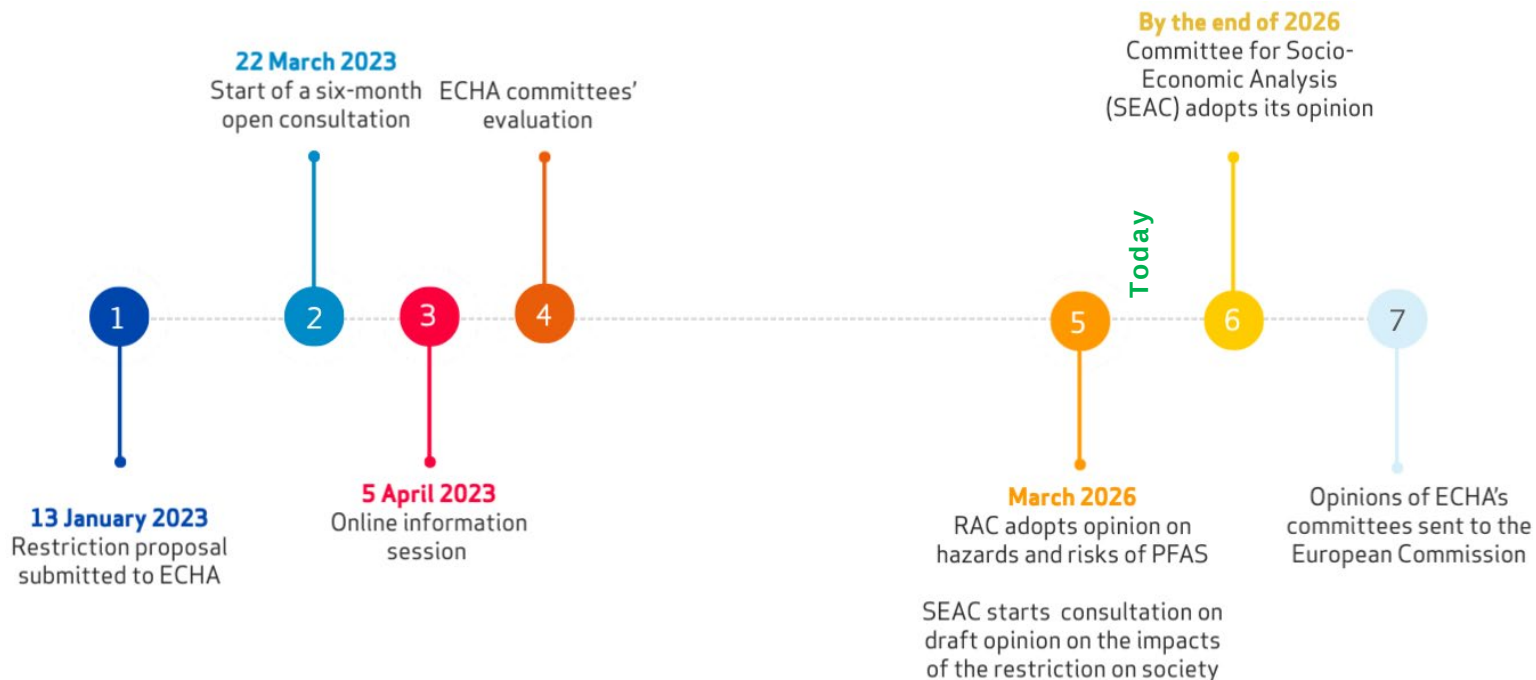
SEAC draft opinion consultation - outcome

3511 comments received

Commenter sector
(count / share in %)



What happens next in the process?



CrVI restriction proposal – overview

→ Submitted by ECHA, at the request of the Commission

→ Scope:

- Certain chromium (VI) oxides and salts →

→ Restriction report 6-month **consultation**:

- 18 June – 18 December 2025
- 251 comments

Substances	EC	AXIV entry
Chromium trioxide	215-607-8	16
Acids generated from chromium trioxide and their oligomers	231-801-5 236-881-5	17
Sodium dichromate	234-190-3	18
Potassium dichromate	231-906-6	19
Ammonium dichromate	232-143-1	20
Potassium chromate	232-140-5	21
Sodium chromate	231-889-5	22
Dichromium tris(chromate)	246-356-2	28
Strontium chromate	232-142-6	29
Potassium hydroxyoctaoxodizincatedichromate(1-)	234-329-8	30
Pentazinc chromate octahydroxide	256-418-0	31
Barium chromate	233-660-5	na

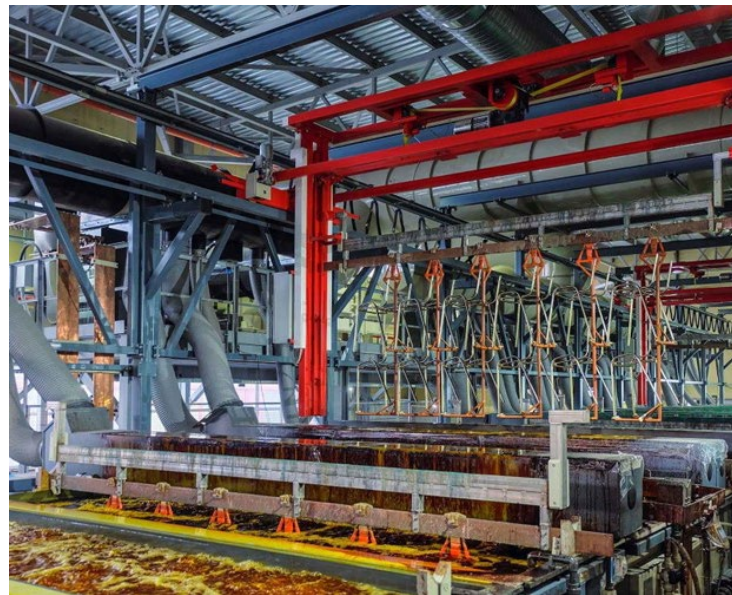
Different degrees of hydration of the substances as well as salts with a different stoichiometry are included in the scope

ECHA proposal to address risk by banning use of Cr(VI) substances **unless:**

1. they fall within a 'closed list' of six use categories, and
2. they comply with specific scientific limit values for worker exposure (LV) and emissions to environment (ELV)

Excluded from scope

- ✓ Cr(VI) exposure situations not in REACH scope (e.g. welding)
- ✓ Uses exempt from authorisation requirements (e.g. intermediate uses)



Uses

6 use categories (UC)

1. Formulation of mixtures
2. Electroplating on plastic substrate
3. Electroplating on metal substrate
4. Use of primers and other slurry coatings
5. Other surface treatments (ETP and others)
6. Uses as functional additive/process aid (closed list of uses)

Sectors

Multiple sectors

- Transportation & defence
- General engineering
- Industrial applications
- Household equipment
- Packaging
- Steel
- Etc.

Committees' evaluation – state of play

→ RAC

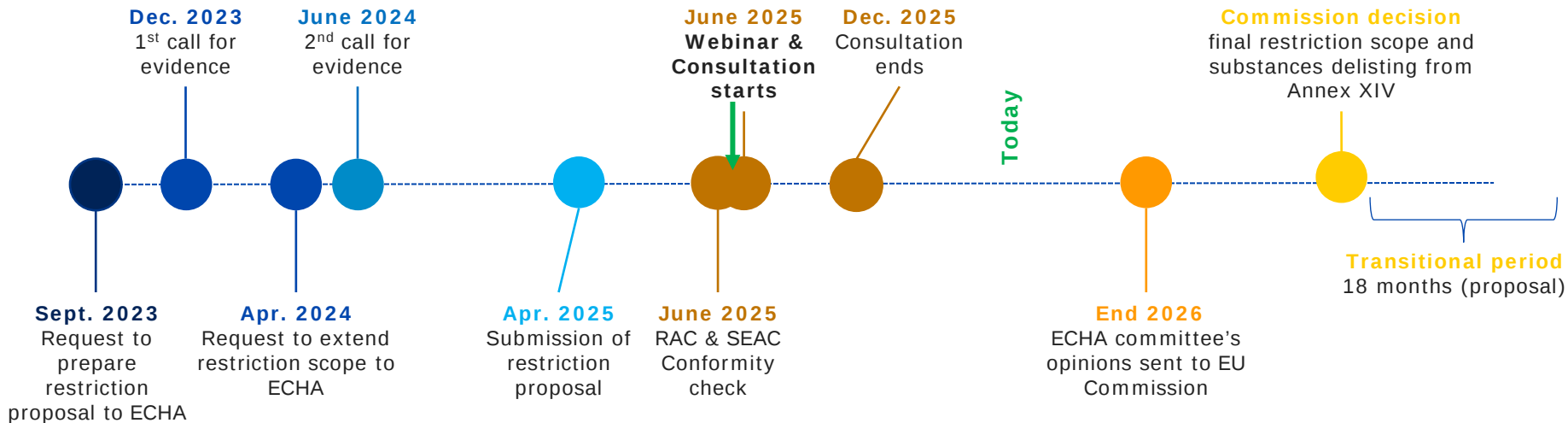
- RAC adopted opinion on 1 June
 - Confirmed CrVI hazards and risks
 - Confirmed need for EU wide action
 - RAC proposed a single Limit Value for workers and single emission level for the environment for all use categories
 - RAC recommended to develop a guideline to support the restriction

→ SEAC

- SEAC *draft* opinion expected to be agreed in plenary next week
 - SEAC revised costs and proportionality for more restrictive options (for discussion at next plenary)



Overall timelines



New risk management tasks for ECHA

ECHA's role under the Batteries Regulation

The Batteries Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 attributes three main responsibilities to ECHA:

- 1 Support the EU Commission to prepare a Report on **Substances of Concern** in Batteries (defined in Art. 6(5)) with indication on further risk management
- 2 Prepare restriction dossiers on identified substances when risk is considered unacceptable (it can be done also by individual Member States)
- 3 Provide an opinion to Commission (via RAC and SEAC committees) on efficacy to reduce risks and socio-economic impacts of restriction proposals



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ECHA's role under Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation



- Main initial task for ECHA:
 - Prepare a study report on substances of concern in packaging
 - to be completed by September 2026 (timelines in the mandate received from the European Commission)
- “Operational” phase: REACH restrictions for substances in packaging
 - Standard REACH Restriction procedure (Article 68(1) and (2))

RoHS Directive

(Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment)

- Industry requests for exemptions from restrictions
- New restrictions
- Scoping study upcoming to support the Commission in the mandatory restricted substances review (every 4 years)
- RAC and SEAC involvement foreseen for restrictions; SEAC involvement foreseen for exemptions (and RAC ad hoc)



ELV Directive

(End-of-Life Vehicles)

- Commission mandates to review exemptions from restrictions
- New restrictions via REACH procedure
- Scoping study upcoming to identify substances of concern in end-of-life vehicles
- RAC and SEAC involvement foreseen for restrictions; SEAC involvement foreseen for review of exemptions



Toys Safety Regulation

Two processes:

- **Industry requests** to derogate from generic bans: RAC to assess safety and SEAC to assess availability of alternatives
 - Generic ban: PFAS, bisphenols, CLH based (CMR 1A, 1B, 2; ED HH 1, 2; STOT SE/RE 1; Resp. sens. 1; Skin sens. 1A)
- **COM requests** to review/set limit values in toys (only RAC)



POPs in waste limit values

- ECHA to provide report on human health, environmental and socio-economic impacts of introducing or modifying concentration limit values (LV) (Annex IV or V)
 - *Low POP concentration limit (Annex IV)*
 - Waste containing POPs above this concentration limit shall be disposed of or recovered in such a way as to ensure that the POP content is destroyed or irreversibly transformed
 - D9, D10, R1, R4
 - *Maximum POP concentration limit (Annex V)*
 - Maximum POP concentration, applicable to a restricted list of waste types also listed in part 2 of Annex V, up to which derogations from being subjected to destructive treatment (D9, D10, R1, R4) might be granted by MSCAs
- SEAC shall adopt an **opinion on the report and on concentration limit values** proposed, within 9 months after the receipt of the report

D9: Physico-chemical treatment. D10: Incineration on land. R1: Use principally as a fuel or other means to generate energy, excluding waste containing PCBs. R4 Recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds, under certain conditions.

Stakeholder input invited



- Information on substances of concern in e.g. industrial chemicals, batteries, packaging, electronics and end-of-life vehicles is crucial to correctly execute our processes
- Provide information by participating to our Calls for Evidence
- ECHA protects business information (claimed as confidential) and publishes only non-confidential information online for transparency

Thank you

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