

## PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

**37<sup>TH</sup> MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING  
19-20 MARCH 2015, HELSINKI**

### 1. Quarterly report on ECHA's activities

The Management Board received the quarterly report on ECHA's activities since the last Board meeting and congratulated the agency for the good performance, noting that the further development of the authorisation application process needs to be monitored as a key component of REACH.

### 2. Preliminary Draft Budget proposal, including Draft Work Programme and Establishment Plan for 2016

The Board adopted ECHA's preliminary Draft Budget (PDB), including a draft establishment plan and draft Work Programme (WP) for 2016.

#### **Key budget and staff figures compared to 2015:**

##### **REACH/CLP:**

- Revenue from fees and charges: EUR 23.4 million (+62%)
- EU subsidy: EUR 72.8 million (+833%)
- 420 establishment plan posts (-10 posts)

##### **BPR:**

- Revenue from fees: EUR 1.5 million (-31.5%)
- EU subsidy: EUR 5.4 million (-6.1%)
- 42 establishment plan posts (- 6 posts), of which 5 would only be employed in case of more applications and fees

The EU subsidy requested for 2016 is substantially higher than foreseen in the current multi-annual planning of the Commission. The Commission service responsible for Biocides is preparing an update of MFF planning for the BPR.

##### **PIC:**

- EU subsidy: EUR 1.15 million (-5.8%)
- 6 establishment plan posts

#### **Draft Work Programme:**

The draft WP 2016 was with some minor modifications adopted as justification for the budget request. The regular ECHA Work Programme will be developed by the Secretariat and adopted by the Management Board in September 2015 after a written consultation of all Board members over the summer.

The approved documents will be forwarded to the European Commission by 31 March 2015. Based on the amounts of EU subsidy and the establishment plan posts fixed by

the Council and the European Parliament for the three legislations, the final budget for 2016 will be adopted by the Management Board in December 2015.

### 3. Multi-annual Staff Policy Plan 2016-18

The Management Board adopted the ECHA's draft Multi-annual Staff Policy Plan (MSPP) 2016-2018, taking into account the comments received from the European Commission and the Agency's replies. After reducing the number of temporary agent (TA) posts, the proposed establishment plan for REACH/CLP, Biocides and PIC is the following:

<b>Year</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>REACH/CLP</b>	420	410	404
<b>Biocides</b>	42	42	42
<b>PIC</b>	6	6	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>453</b>

With one modification brought to the document and two reservations the Management Board adopted the Multi-Annual Staff Policy Plan 2016-2018. The Executive Director was instructed to submit the document to the European Commission and the Budgetary Authority by 31 March 2015.

### 4. ECHA General Report 2014

The Board members adopted the Agency's General Report 2014 and gave their appreciation on the results accomplished in the previous year. The document will be submitted to the Member States, the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Court of Auditors, and will be published.

### 5. Assessment of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2014

The Executive Director presented his Consolidated Annual Activity Report drawn up in his capacity as ECHA's authorising officer under the Financial Regulation.

Based on an initial proposal prepared by the Working Group on Planning and Reporting, and taking on board some suggestions for change by several members, the Management Board adopted its assessment of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report.

The report and the assessment will be sent to the Court of Auditors, the European Parliament, and the Commission by 1 July 2015. The assessment will also be included in the ECHA General Report.

### 6. Report from the Working Group on Planning and Reporting

In the course of the meeting, the Chair of the Working Group on Planning and Reporting informed the other Board members of the Group's findings and recommendations in relation to items 2-5 above.

In addition, the Chair updated the other members of additional issues discussed with by the Working Group in its meeting of 26 February:

- Update on strategy for improving the substance identity in registration dossiers
- Operational decisions of ECHA – languages
- Update on "ECHA vision 2020"

## 7. ECHA Committees

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### 7.1. Appointment of Committee members

The Management Board appointed one new member nominated by Iceland for the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) and one new member nominated by Estonia for the Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) membership.

### 7.2. Remuneration Co-opted members for RAC and SEAC

The Management Board amended the Decision on the remuneration of experts to allow for the compensation of co-opted members of the Committees. There were two objections against this decision. The majority of Board members nevertheless saw a need to take urgent action in the light of the anticipated workload of RAC and SEAC linked to the expected peak in applications for authorisation over the coming two years. A review will be undertaken after 18 months.

The Management Board invited the Committees to bring forward proposals for revised Rules of Procedures which would foresee no voting right for co-opted members, as appropriate. These revised rules could be adopted by the Management Board in June 2015.

Once a call for expression of interest for coopted members has been completed and a list of suitable experts compiled, Member States will be invited to appoint regular Committee members from this list.

It was noted that the efficiency measures in the Committees will continue to be developed and implemented, including the option of an expert group on exposure for RAC. Furthermore, the current way of allocating cases to a team of more and less experienced members (co-rapporteurs) will also continue.

In the light of the capacity constraints faced by the Committee, the Management Board urged the Commission to remind Member States, through all appropriate Council constellations of the requirement to allocate sufficient national resources to the ECHA REACH Committees.

## 8. Board of Appeal: Nomination of a Reporting Officer for the Members

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The Board appointed Catherine MIR as reporting officer for the members of the Board of Appeal, effective as of 1 June 2015.

In a closed session, the Management Board discussed pending administrative procedures related to the Board of Appeal and concluded on appropriate next steps to be taken.

## 9. Rules of Procedure of the Forum

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The Board members adopted updated Rules of Procedure of the Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement (Forum).

## 10. Participation of Switzerland in the work of ECHA under the Biocidal Product Regulation

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The Management Board decided to invite Switzerland to participate in the biocides-related work of the Agency within the remit of the provisions of chapter 18 of the amended Mutual Recognition Agreement between the EU and Switzerland and mandated the Chair to issue an invitation letter when two preconditions are met:

- (1) the entry into force of an amendment to the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the European Union and Switzerland to cover the Biocidal Product Regulation;
- (2) the agreement of the Biocidal Product Committee.

## 11. Report from the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Conflict of Interests

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The Chair of Advisory Committee on Conflict of Interests presented the Annual Report of the Conflict of Interest Advisory Committee summarising the very first opinion given by the Committee.

## 12. Information items without discussion

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- Report from Written Procedures
- Update of the MB Rolling Plan

## 13. A.O.B.

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- Management Board meeting September 2015 in Luxembourg

The Chair informed that Luxembourg will hold the presidency of the Council of the European Union starting from July 2015. In this framework the September Management Board meeting will take place in Luxembourg.

- Helsinki Chemicals Forum 2015

The Secretariat invited Board members to express interest in participating in the 2015 Helsinki Chemicals Forum (limited to maximum of five Board members)