

Note for the attention of Tim Bowmer, Chairman of the Committee for Risk Assessment

Ref: Request to the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) to provide an evaluation of occupational exposure limits (OELs) for 4,4'-methylenebis [2-chloroaniline] (MOCA) and for arsenic acid and its inorganic salts

The Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) ('the Committee') is requested to evaluate the scientific relevance of occupational exposure limits (OELs) for 4,4'-methylenebis [2-chloroaniline] (MOCA) and for arsenic acid and its inorganic salts.

1. Background

The Commission requested ECHA (in their letter Ref. GL/ps ARES env.b.2(2017)1407647 of 8 March 2017) to evaluate, in accordance with Directive 98/24/EC on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work (CAD) and/or Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (CMD), the following chemical compounds: 4,4'-methylenebis[2-chloroaniline] (MOCA), arsenic acid and its inorganic salts, nickel and its compounds, acrylonitrile and benzene.

This mandate concerns the first two substances (MOCA and arsenic acid and its inorganic salts).

2. Terms of Reference

The Committee is requested to provide the evaluations of:

- 4,4'-methylenebis[2-chloroaniline] (MOCA),

RAC forms an opinion on MOCA based on the current RAC and SCOEL opinions on the dose-response function and the development of occupational exposure limits respectively of the substance (agreed by RAC on 1 April 2015).

- arsenic acid and its inorganic salts.

RAC forms an opinion on arsenic acid and its inorganic salts based on the existing RAC opinion on the dose response function (agreed by RAC on 4 December 2013), supplemented by additional information to cover the development of occupational exposure limits.

The aim of the combined opinions (on each of the two substances) is to support the Commission, by providing scientific advice, in taking action on the Proposal to amend Directive 2004/37/EC (3rd amendment). The opinions shall include a recommendation to the Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work (ACSH) in line with the OSH legislative procedures and considering the format used by SCOEL in drafting their opinions.

3. Timescale for the RAC opinion

In order to support the Commission in proposing these two substances in the 3rd amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC, the RAC opinions would need to be provided to the Commission by **29 May 2017**. To this end, detailed timelines will be prepared and agreed with the Committee.

4. Remuneration

The task for RAC following from this request is not considered to fulfil any of the requirements of a transfer of funds to the competent authorities of the Member States pursuant to Article 14(1) of Regulation (EC) 340/2008 and therefore no remuneration will be paid by the Agency.

[Signed]

Geert Dancet
Executive Director

Cc: Jukka Malm, Jack de Bruijn