



# ECHA

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## **News Alert:**

ECHA/PR/08/19

Helsinki, 7 July 2008

### **RISK ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE INVITES OBSERVERS TO FOLLOW ITS WORK**

**At its third meeting on 1-3 July the Committee for Risk Assessment decided to invite observers from 15 stakeholder organisations and from the OECD to its future meetings. This decision follows the ECHA policy on involvement of stakeholders and the open call for expression of interest published in March 2008.**

The Committee agreed to invite five industry and trade organisations and eight other organisations representing consumers, workers, environmental, animal welfare and health interests and two scientific associations to take part in its work as observers. In addition, the Committee decided to invite the OECD Secretariat as an observer. Invitations to the selected stakeholder organisations to nominate their representatives will be sent out soon. The stakeholders will have the opportunity to follow the Committee meetings as observers on a regular basis and to provide their specific scientific and technical expertise and knowledge to the work of the Committee.

In addition, other eligible sector-specific organisations on the ECHA list may be invited to discussions on specific dossiers/issues relevant to their sector.

Good progress was made on working procedures which will facilitate reaching agreements on the first dossiers. The Committee welcomed the opportunity to start cooperation with the Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis at a workshop to be organised in October in preparation for the start of the restrictions title of REACH in June 2009.

The Committee appointed rapporteurs and co-rapporteurs for the first three substances proposed by Sweden for harmonised classification and labelling. The examination of these dossiers will become a central point of the next RAC meeting in November.

The total number of members of the Committee is now 38 following the new appointments made by the Management Board in April and June, including for the first time a member nominated by Bulgaria. EFTA countries, based on the Agreement of the European Economic Area, have been requested to nominate their members to the Committee.

### **Links:**

General information on ECHA Committees:

[http://echa.europa.eu/about/organisation\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/about/organisation_en.asp)

[http://echa.europa.eu/about/organisation/committees/rac\\_members\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/about/organisation/committees/rac_members_en.asp)

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