

21 November 2018

## Annex to a news alert

### Inspectors prepare for EU EU-wide control of chemicals sold online

#### ECHA/NR/18/66

Helsinki, 21 November 2018

### Discussions during the Forum's 31<sup>st</sup> meeting on 14-16 November 2018 and the BPRS's sixth meeting on 12 November 2018.

#### Open sessions with stakeholders

One day of the meeting was allocated for an open session with 17 stakeholder organisations. In the open session, issues ranging ways in which DUs address differences between exposure scenarios sent by suppliers to management of tanks for biocidal active substances and possibilities for improving the quality of safety data sheets (SDSs) were discussed.

The Forum analysed a representative batch of SDSs and presented its findings indicating that deficiencies are frequent in information about the composition, exposure controls and toxicological information. A more detailed report identifying frequent issues is expected in spring 2019. The idea behind the Forum's joint initiative with the stakeholder organisations is to address SDS quality through voluntary actions from industry and not only through enforcement.

#### Results of enforcement projects finishing in 2018

The Forum also presented for the first time the results of the enforcement projects finishing in 2018 such as the pilot project on PIC and the REF-5 project on extended SDSs and exposure scenarios focusing on duties related to flow of information in the supply chain. The reports will be published by the end of 2018.

#### Preparations for 2019 projects

The Forum and the Biocidal Product Regulation Subgroup (BPRS) wrapped up preparations for projects for which inspections will begin in 2019.

A pilot project on cooperation with customs focusing on REACH restrictions and CLP labelling will tighten cooperation between customs authorities and REACH/CLP inspectors, when controlling imported goods. The inspections are expected to start in early 2019 and will continue until the autumn of that year. The report is expected to be published in autumn of 2020.

Furthermore, the BPRS adopted the manual for its first harmonised enforcement project (BEF-1) on the obligations of treated articles so that the inspections in 28 participating countries can be kicked off at the beginning of 2019.

The Forum also agreed to run a pilot project focusing on the exemption of the registration duty for substances recovered from waste. The project will become operational in 2020.

## Background information

### **The role of the Enforcement Forum and its BPR Subgroup (BPRS)**

The Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement (Forum) is a network of authorities responsible for the enforcement of the REACH, CLP and PIC regulations in the EU, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

In 2017, the Forum set up the Forum Biocidal Products Regulation Subgroup (BPRS), which meets three times per year back to back with the Forum plenary meetings to ensure a thorough, coordinated and harmonised enforcement.