VBO FEB
Verbond van Belgische Ondernemingen
Fédération des Entreprises de Belgique

THE FUTURE OF REACH

VBO-FEB

CCIM Stakeholder dialogue

- Noémie Janssens -

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WHY A REVISION OF REACH?

CONTENT

1. Registration requirements
2. Authorisation & Restriction reform
3. Continuous dialogue between ECHA and industry
4. Align REACH and circular economy
5. Enforcement to ensure level playing field

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

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1) Avoid additional requirements for Polymers
   - Immense number of polymers on the market (200,000 – 400,000)
   - Unnecessary complexity
   - Need for substantial resources
   - Threat to the recycling value chain

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

2) Avoid integrating MAF (Mixture Assessment Factor) in REACH
   - Significant administrative burdens
   - Curtail substances and uses without relevant combination effects
     - No « one size fits all » rule
     - Only where combined exposure is identified
   - Existing regulations are sufficient

AUTHORISATION & RESTRICTION REFORM

AUTHORISATION & RESTRICTION

1) Improve authorisation and restriction process
   - Simplification & clarification
     - Procedure too lengthy
     - Procedure too resource-intensive for all parties involved
     - Focus on small quantities
   - Adjustment of deadlines for review periodes
   - Introduction « Repair as produced » for spare parts
   - Late derogation applications

AUTHORISATION & RESTRICTION

2) Use authorisation and restriction process for intended purpose
   - « Regulation by exception » resulting in planning uncertainty
   - Far reaching bans have socio-economic impacts
   - Target the uses that pose unacceptable risks

CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE BETWEEN ECHA AND INDUSTRY

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During preparation and updating of REACH dossiers

- Reduce administrative burden
- Increase effectiveness of evaluation process
- Current procedures are too rigid to allow interaction

ALIGN REACH AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ALIGN REACH & CE

1) Avoid duplication of safety assessments and requirements
   - Ex. End-of-waste criteria
   - Repeating same evalutions is redundant and inefficient

ALIGN REACH & CE

2) Delay of handling recycling sector needs consideration in REACH
   - Recyclers don't choose the chemicals in the waste stream
   - Hard to comply with REACH obligations:
     - Substance identification
     - Registration
     - Risk assessments
   - Current SIP database has not yet provided the anticipated usefulness and burden reduction

ALIGN REACH & CE

3) Standardisation of analytical methods in the EU
   - To guarantee transferability between testing facilities

ENFORCEMENT TO ENSURE LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

ENFORCEMENT

1) Enforcement must be strengthened to ensure level playing field
   - For well-functioning Single Market
   - For effective protection of human health and environment
   - Current high rate of non-compliance
   - Undermines legal certainty
   - Disadvantage for EU-based companies that invest in REACH compliance

ENFORCEMENT

2) From the very beginning and at every stage
   - Insufficient enforceability hampers targeted inspections
   - ECHA Enforcement Forum should have a stronger advisory role
   - European Commission must provide solutions for enforceability gaps
     - Development of harmonised test methods
     - Enhancing laboratory capacity for border controls

Q&A

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Rue Ravensteinstraat 4, 1000 Brussel/Bruxelles
BE476 519 923 – RPR Brussel/Bruxelles
www.vbo-feb.be –