



5th National Conference on REACH, Rome 16 November 2016

REACH - results since entry into force
Cristina de Avila, European Commission, DG Environment



REACH objectives

- Ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment
- Reduce animal testing
- Free circulation of substances on the Internal Market
- Enhance competitiveness and innovation.

Why REACH?

- Previous system inefficient
- Difficult to identify and address risks
 - **Lack of information about most substances on the market**
 - **Burden of proof on public authorities**
- *No efficient instrument to deal with problematic substances*
- *Lack of incentives for innovation: new substances had to be notified as of 10 kg (but no equivalent obligation for substances on the market).*



Achievements

- Regulation
- European Chemicals Agency
- Strong and structured cooperation
 - **Authorities**
 - **Stakeholders**
- Industry compliance.



More/better information

- REACH registration
 - 10 000 companies registered substances
 - 54 000 registration dossiers
 - 14 000 substances.



More/better information

- REACH evaluation: better knowledge of risks and hazards
 - **Evaluation processes improved compliance and availability of information on substances**
 - **Increased scientific knowledge and understanding of risks and hazards of substances.**



Better communication

- Data available and made accessible
- ECHA Infocard system for easy consultation for everyone
- Companies have better information, hence
 - **Better safety for people and environment**
 - **Better business decisions**
- Better communication in the supply chain.



Challenges (More/better information)

- Compliance issues
 - Especially on uses and exposure scenarios
 - Need to mobilise industry action to provide data and update 'proactively'
 - Focus on substances that are of highest concern (CMR, PBT, EDC)
- SIEFs
 - New implementing legislation.



Challenges (More/better information)

- Nanomaterials
 - **Only 18 dossiers**
 - **Commission working on specific information requirements**
 - **Industry must already include information on nanoforms they manufacture/import**
- Animal testing
 - **Industry to harmonise its approach to alternative methods (better derogation statements)**
 - **Better documentation of the last resort principle.**



Safer chemicals on the market

- Authorisation
 - Candidate list contains 168 substances of very high concern
 - 31 substances require authorisation
 - Relatively few requests for authorisation: companies are substituting
- Restrictions
 - 20 new restrictions on use of hazardous substances to reduce risks.



Challenges (Safer chemicals)

- Poor authorisation applications, poor committee opinions
- Relationship of REACH and occupational health and safety legislation
- Few restrictions
- Little information on substances in articles.



Innovation

- Almost 1500 new substances registered
- SVHCs are being substituted
- PPORD exemption is being used.



REACH REFIT Evaluation (REACH Review 2017)

- Review every 5 years
- Coincides with Commission's Better Regulation (REFIT)
- Evidence based: ECHA and Member States reports, thematic studies, stakeholder consultation, REACH review 2012
- June 2017.



Beyond REACH

Strategic context

- Circular economy
- Non-toxic environment strategy
 - **Commission to analyse interface chemicals – waste**
 - **To address substances in articles**
 - **Avoid recurrence of hazardous substances in the recycling loop.**



Thank you!
Grazie!

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/index_en.htm