

Communiqué: Second meeting of the Directors Contact Group

At their second meeting, the Directors Contact Group (DCG) held on 2 March 2010 agreed on the prioritisation of identified issues of concern for industry to meet the registration deadline of 30 November. The DCG had given the mandate to the Sherpa Group to prepare a detailed inventory of the issues and to prioritise them based on agreed criteria. As a result, issues were identified and categorised into three groups:

- The Directors Contact Group considers that, for the majority of the issues, feasible solutions could be developed and implemented in time for the first registration deadline. The solutions to these issues are currently under development or implementation, either through the ECHA work on Guidance and IT development; through ongoing Commission work (e.g. regarding waste); or planned work by the Commission or ECHA (e.g. statement on use of CHESAR tool by ECHA).
- A limited number of issues were prioritised as deserving close follow-up by the Directors Contact Group. Based on scoping papers to be developed by industry, the Sherpa group was mandated to further investigate the issues and develop solutions.
- For a small number of remaining issues, the Commission and ECHA will develop scoping papers to (1) establish the feasibility and timeliness of a solution and (2) to develop the solution itself.

These issues and the proposed solutions will be further discussed at the next meeting of the Directors Contact Group, planned for 8 April.

An overview of the overall preparedness of industry to meeting the 2010 registration deadline was carried out by the Sherpas Group based on bottom-up analysis of available information. Although numerous inputs still have to be compiled, it already appeared that ECHA and Industry missed information about SIEF activities for a substantial number of substances. To improve this situation, ECHA will address a communication to all the pre-registrants of SIEFs for which information is currently unavailable. Progress on this overview and in particular its potential impacts is being monitored by the DCG and further actions will be considered as appropriate.