Co-opted members of RAC and SEAC: call for expression of interests

- Experts in occupational hygiene and chemical exposure assessment
- Experts in socio-economic analysis

(deadline: 1 August 2018, 12:00 noon Helsinki time)

The Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) prepares the opinions of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) related to the hazards and risks of substances to human health and the environment, while the Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) prepares the opinions of ECHA related to the socio-economic impact of possible legislative actions on chemicals.

In addition to the regular membership nominated by Member States and appointed by the Management Board of ECHA, RAC and SEAC may co-opt a maximum of five additional members each. The mandate of the currently co-opted members expires in 2018.

For RAC, there is a need for additional expertise in the broader field of worker protection. ¹

For SEAC, there is a need for additional expertise in analysing cost and benefits of regulation, technical feasibility of alternatives and substitution of substances of concern.

This call for expression of interest has been made in order to identify potential candidates and to prepare a proposal for their appointment as co-opted members for approval by RAC and SEAC.

1. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

As a successful candidate, you will work as a co-opted member of the Committee for Risk Assessment or of the Committee for Socio-economic Analysis of the European Chemicals Agency. In particular, you will be required to take an active role in the following tasks:

- Act as (co-)rapporteurs on behalf of the relevant Committee for the preparation of scientific opinions on applications for authorisation and proposed restrictions, and scientific assessments of occupational exposure limits in teams with regular members of RAC and/or SEAC.

- Attend plenary meetings of the Committee at least four times a year.

Contribute your expertise and advice in plenary meetings, during written consultations of the Committees and in webinars and phone conferences on request by the ECHA Secretariat.

Successful candidates will have a term of 3 years, starting with the date of their appointment foreseen in the year 2018.

The working language will be English.

The successful candidates are expected to spend a significant part of their working time on the Committee’s work.

2. FORESEEN REQUIREMENTS

The requirements set out in this section are provisional, pending the agreement of RAC and SEAC on the required specific competences.

a) Qualifications & professional experience

Your academic qualification should be relevant to the work described in section 1 above. Preference will be given to candidates holding a university degree or PhD and who have a minimum of 10 years professional experience in the following fields:

RAC:
- Occupational health and safety;
- Operational conditions and risk management used to control exposure to chemical substances in the workplace;
- Occupational medicine;
- Cancer risk assessment;
- Epidemiology;
- Exposure modelling.

SEAC:
- Economics, in particular welfare, public sector, environmental or health economics;
- Methodologies for impact assessment, analysing costs and benefits of regulation, including the analysis of technical feasibility of alternatives and their costs;
- Knowledge about substitution of substances of concern, such as SVCHs.

b) General competences

- Ability to work efficiently in a multidisciplinary expert team;
- Aptitude for negotiation and consensus building on complex matters;
- Ability to keep timetables under pressure;
- Very good skills in written and spoken English.
c) Assets

- Experience with Committee work at national or international level;
- Preferably you have worked in the public service of an EU Member State/EEA-EFTA country, or in academia. Where not in conflict with the ECHA eligibility criteria as referred to in section 3 below, previous industry or consultancy experience would be an advantage;
- Experience with the REACH Regulation;
- Experience with Directive 98/24/EC on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work (CAD) and with Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (CMD).

3. CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The rules of the ECHA policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interests apply2. You are therefore invited to check them carefully on ECHA’s website at http://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/procedures-and-policies/conflicts-of-interest. This means that the eligibility criteria for ECHA Committees3 will be applied when appointing new co-opted members based on completed declarations of interest.

4. REMUNERATION

(Co)-rapporteur work done by successful candidates working for a Member State Competent Authority (the MSCA) under the REACH Regulation or a public body nominated by the MSCA will be remunerated according to the ECHA Management Board Decision on the financial arrangements for the transfer of a proportion of fees to Member States4. The transfer of fees is designed to compensate the MSCAs (or other public bodies nominated by them) for rapporteur work done in RAC and SEAC; such transfers between an MSCA and another public body are to be decided at the national level.

Successful candidates not employed in the public service of an EU Member State or an EEA-EFTA country will be remunerated for attendance at RAC/SEAC meetings and per actual day of work, as laid down in the Management Board Decision 09/2015 (MB/07/2015 final5):

- EUR 300 will be paid per actual day of work as a RAC/SEAC (co-)rapporteur. The maximum remuneration per (co-)rapporteurship will be 6’000 EUR.

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EUR 300 will be paid per actual day of work for Committee meeting attendance.

In addition, for all co-opted members, travel and accommodation expenses will be reimbursed in line with the Document MB/34/2015, adopted by the Management Board.

5. HOW TO APPLY

Expressions of interest from candidates should be submitted via a web form to which the EUROPASS CV should be attached, by 1 August 2018, 12:00 noon (Helsinki time). Only properly completed online web forms will be considered.

Expressions of interest under this call will not be accepted after the deadline has expired.

Prospective applicants may send any questions to: expert-calls@echa.europa.eu.

6. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Candidates will be reviewed based on their expression of interest and the attached CV’s, and may be invited by the Agency to a phone interview or interview at the Agency’s premises. Candidates considered for interviews will be asked to submit a declaration of interest form, in line with section 3 above. Appointment of successful candidates as co-opted member will be agreed by RAC and SEAC.

Member States will be invited to consider nominating candidates to regular membership of RAC/SEAC (i.e. without co-option) from the list of suitable candidates of this call.