

Press Release: ECHA/PR/08/23

Helsinki, July 31, 2008

FOUR ECHA DIRECTORS SELECTED

ECHA management recruitments are progressing. The selection procedures for the Director for Cooperation, for Assessment, for Procedures and Processes, and for Resources have been completed. The new Directors are foreseen to take up their duties in the Agency during the autumn.

Executive Director Geert Dancet said: 'I am pleased to announce that the selection procedures for the four ECHA Directors have been successfully completed. I am very happy with the outcome. We'll get four highly qualified Directors completing the ECHA top management team. These successful selections pave way for the Head of Unit and other important selections in the coming months'.

The new directors are:

- Mr Andreas Herdina, Director of Cooperation (Directorate A)
- Mr Jukka Malm, Director of Assessment (Directorate B)
- Ms Christel Musset, Director of Procedures and Processes (Directorate C)
- Mr Jef Maes, Director of Resources (Directorate R)

The Director positions became vacant as the first occupants, seconded Commission officials, will return to the European Commission according to their contracts.

Directorate C, Procedures and Processes, is new and will initially be responsible for a number of REACH operations, covering among others pre-registration and registration, substance identification and confidentiality claims,. The Directorate will also be responsible for development of all scientific IT tools including REACH-IT.

All new Directors have extensive work experience in their respective fields of responsibility.

Mr Herdina is Austrian and currently serving as Head of Unit in the External Relations Directorate General of the European Commission.

Mr Malm is Finnish and presently Director of Expert Services in the Finnish Environment Institute. He is also the Chairman of the ECHA Management Board and will step down from this position.

Ms Musset is French and has been serving as Head of Unit in Directorate B of the Agency since September 2007. Her previous employment was with the European Chemicals Bureau in Italy.

Mr Maes is Belgian. He is currently serving as Head of Administrative Services in the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control in Stockholm, Sweden, another EU regulatory agency.

The organisation chart of ECHA will be revised in September and can be uploaded from the Agency web site.

Press contacts: press@echa.europa.eu