Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement
11-12 December 2007
I. Summary Record of the Proceeding

Item 1 – Welcome and Introduction

The interim Executive Director of European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Mr. Geert Dancet, welcomed the participants and congratulated the members on their appointment. He stressed the importance of enforcement of REACH and underlined that facilitating effective coordination of enforcement is one of the ECHA priorities. He mentioned, as a priority for the Forum, the drafting of the Rules of Procedure and the elaboration of a clear work programme.

a) Introduction of the members and other participants

Members briefly presented themselves and the advisers accompanying them at the meeting. Representatives of the Commission and the ECHA secretariat also presented themselves. The list of participants is laid down in Section III.

b) Administrative Issues

ECHA presented the declarations that have to be signed by different types of participants of the Forum meetings, according to the provisions of the draft Forum Rules of Procedure (ROPs). There are three types of declarations: declaration of commitment, declaration of interests and declaration of confidentiality. All these are attached to the draft ROPs. The declarations will be filled in and signed only after the adoption of the ROPs. However, the Forum members should keep in mind that the duties of commitment, declaring conflicts of interests and confidentiality should apply from the first day of their appointment.

Filled declarations will be collected by ECHA and entered into a Register kept at ECHA. The declarations will be available to the public, on request. The declaration of interests will be structured into two parts, one general that will be published on ECHA website and one detailed that will be kept in the Register at ECHA. Publication of the declarations of interests would be in line with ECHA’s commitment to transparency and it would also be in line with the practice of some other European agencies like European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and European Medicines Agency (EMEA). ECHA will finalize a guidance document on conflicts of interest and provide it to the members.

The Chair clarified that the topic will be further discussed under the agenda point on the ROPs and questions could be addressed to the Secretariat also after the meeting. The Forum members were then asked, in accordance with Article 88(3) of the REACH Regulation, if any of them had interests that might prejudice their independence. No member declared such interests.

With regard to the indication of confidential points of discussion one member proposed to either mark them on the agenda or on the meeting documents. The Chair mentioned that it is up to the Forum to decide which issues are regarded as confidential.

c) Election of the Chair

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ECHA explained that the Forum Chair could formally be elected only after the ROPs were adopted by the Management Board. However, a provisional Chair for the Forum, to be in function until the adoption of the ROPs, could be elected already during the first meeting. In the invitation letter for the meeting ECHA had invited the members to propose candidates and elect a Chair for the meeting from among the Forum members present. ECHA had not received any proposals from the members prior to the meeting and therefore ECHA indicated that it was ready to chair the meeting until one of the members was elected as a provisional Chair. Ms. Yla-Mononen from ECHA took this task.

On the second meeting day, after Agenda Item 6, the members were asked to consider again the election of the provisional Chair. There were two proposals but one of the members proposed did not accept the candidature. Ms. Ulrike Kowalski, after accepting the candidature, was elected as provisional Chair of the Forum. Ms. Kowalski took over the chairmanship of the meeting immediately.

d) Draft Agenda

The Chair explained the changes in the draft agenda and opened the floor for other proposals. One member proposed to include a new topic, the enforceability of Annex XVII of REACH. It was agreed that the topic would be addressed under the agenda point 7 on the “Work Programme for the Forum”.

The list indicating the meeting documents uploaded to CIRCA prior to the meeting is given in Annex 1. ECHA mentioned that all PowerPoint presentations will also be uploaded to CIRCA after the meeting.

A member proposed that reference to agenda points should be added on the meeting documents prepared by ECHA which agreed to the proposal.

The agenda was adopted.

Item 2 – Background
(Meeting document: ECHA/Forum/2007/02)

Background of the Forum – Legal Basis, Scope, Proposed Modus Operandi

ECHA presented the legal base of the Forum as well as the ECHA vision on the Forum modus operandi. It was foreseen that the members will propose activities to be performed by the Forum, which will be included into an annual or a rolling multiannual work programme, after decision was taken by the plenary. Forum working groups composed of the Forum members and other experts proposed by the Forum members could be established for execution of certain tasks.

ECHA will support the Forum by providing two scientific secretaries for the Forum who will facilitate communication between the Forum members, plan, prepare, organize and follow-up the activities of the Forum, liaise with the rest of ECHA, establish and maintain working relationship with other bodies. ECHA will also support the Forum financially by reimbursing
the costs related to participation for the Forum meetings. Subject to availability of funds, ECHA will support the meeting of the working groups and may contribute to joint activities for which criteria will be developed in the future.

ECHA stressed that preparatory work carried out by different groups such as the subgroup on enforcement of the Commission Working Group on the practical preparations for REACH and Members State Enforcement Project produced very useful input for the Forum.

Item 3 – Rules of Procedure (ROPs)  
(ECHA/Forum/2007/01)

a) Principles and Procedural Issues on ROPs and SOPs

ECHA gave an introduction on the content of ROPs and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Based on REACH provisions, the ROPs shall contain procedures for appointing and replacing the Chair of the Forum, replacing the members and delegating certain tasks to working groups. ROPs should be kept general, following the same pattern for all other ECHA Committees, while SOPs should be elaborated for detailed procedures, if the Forum considers necessary.

b) Draft Proposal for ROPs of the Forum and Discussion

ECHA had elaborated and circulated before the meeting a draft proposal for the Forum ROPs and requested written comments on the draft. The draft was presented by ECHA, article by article, each article being followed by discussions. Several modifications were proposed and agreed at the meeting and the version as revised at the meeting will be uploaded on CIRCA by ECHA.

The main discussions points and decisions taken are summarised below.

*Article 5 of the ROPs – “Term of office and replacing the members”*

Several Forum members supported the idea of having alternates with voting rights, as there would be cases where the appointed member would not be able to attend a meeting and the same expertise could be found at national level and the voting could be prepared in advance in agreement with the members replaced. The Chair stressed that the REACH Regulation does not foresee the alternates and refers only to the members of the Forum, whenever actions of the Forum are mentioned and in addition REACH lays an obligation of commitments, confidentiality and independence on the members and not the alternates, therefore providing voting rights to alternates would not be in compliance with the legal text. In addition, the Chair emphasized that the role of the Forum is not to make decisions, but it is primarily meant for information exchange and coordinating a network, that voting would at any case take place rarely and, if it is foreseeable that a member could not be present, the decision may also be taken in a written procedure. The Management Board had already taken a view that no alternates should be accepted. The possibility of giving a proxy to another member similarly to the Commission regulatory committees, had also been considered but since the information exchange and networking are the essence of the Forum, proxies could not replace the contribution of other members of the Forum. The discussion on proxies was not conclusive, however it was agreed to keep the suggested text as it stands.
Article 6 of the ROPs – “Other participants of the meetings”
Participation of observers to the Forum meetings was discussed. It was clarified that the Forum shall decide who it invites and to whom it gives access to its meetings. The Management Board is to approve the approach for participation of third countries and international organisations. ECHA policy on participation of stakeholders at the work of the Agency would be discussed at the next Management Board meeting and the proposed line was to grant access to main stakeholder organisations to all Committee and the Forum meetings. However, the Forum could restrict the participation of observers to its meetings when justified.

It was also clarified that participation of the countries of the European Economic Area (EEA) at ECHA meetings will be addressed separately by the Management Board and the Forum should then follow the decision taken. The ECHA policy, is that the REACH Regulation must be first incorporated into the EEA Agreement before the EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) can participate.

Articles 12, 13, 14 and 15 – deadlines for invitation, agenda and documents for meetings
The following deadlines were agreed: 28 calendar days for sending the invitation and the provisional agenda for the Forum meeting by ECHA, 14 calendar days for items to be added on the agenda for the Forum meeting by the members, 10 calendar days for circulating the final draft agenda before the meeting and six weeks for drafting the minutes of the meetings.

Article 6 and 16 – Invited experts and working groups
The procedure for inviting experts to working groups was agreed: Members shall identify suitable experts and propose them to the Forum. The Forum shall decide about the composition of a working group and ECHA will invite the experts via email.

Article 18 – Written procedure
It was clarified that when a written procedure is launched, lack of response will be considered as tacit agreement.

Annexes - declarations
One member needed more time to make sure that there is no contradiction with the national legal provisions on confidentiality and the proposed Article 10 of the ROPs and it was agreed that written comments could be sent to ECHA on this Article by 28 January 2008.

Other procedural issues not regulated in ROPs
Concerning speaking rights, it was agreed that advisers and observers can ask the Chair for the floor and the Chair would normally give them the floor after the members.

The Forum as a whole was regarded as being established at its first meeting and thus the counting for the three years mandate of the members would start from 11 December 2007.

Conclusions
It was agreed that comments on the Annexes of the ROPS, as well as editorial corrections to the document could be sent by the Forum members to ECHA until 28 January 2008. Otherwise, the draft ROPs would be considered to be agreed as modified during the meeting Minutes of the 1st Meeting of Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement, 11-12 December 2007

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and made available to the members after the meeting (ECHA/Forum/2007/01 rev. 2), subject to a scrutiny reserve concerning the wording of the confidentiality provision of Article 10. After the final editing and if no major issues were raised by the members on Article 10 or the Annexes, the finalised draft ROPs will be submitted to the Management Board for adoption, in line with Article 86(4) of the REACH Regulation.

It was agreed that proposals for SOPs would be discussed at Forum-2.

**Item 4 – Co-opted members**
(ECHA/Forum/2007/03)

*a) Introduction; b) Competence coverage; c) Call for proposals for co-opted members*

As gaps in the overall expertise of the Forum is the only criterion for co-opting additional members to the Forum, ECHA presented an overview of the competence of the Forum members based on the CVs and the competence grids submitted to ECHA. It was pointed out that members had evaluated themselves and the evaluation criteria might have differed from one member to the other. Based on the compiled grids, the expertise of the Forum is comprehensive, but it was noted that grid does not necessarily contain all relevant expertise fields for the Forum.

After some discussion, it was decided that harmonised short CVs should be prepared by the members and shared among the members. These CVs could then also be uploaded on the ECHA website. ECHA took the task to elaborate the format for the CV and upload it to CIRCA.

With regard to expertise gaps, ECHA suggested that the Forum would decide what expertise is further needed, but may wish to consider co-opting an expert in customs legislation. Several members have knowledge on enforcement of chemicals legislation in customs, but do not necessarily have the in-depth expertise in customs legislation.

Participation of the Directorate General Taxation and Customs Union of the European Commission (DG TAXUD) to the Forum meetings was stated as necessary. The Chair clarified that a representative from TAXUD could not participate in the first Forum meeting, due to other overlapping events but TAXUD will be kept informed of the developments in the Forum.

One of the members inquired and ECHA confirmed that an ECHA legal officer will be present at all Forum meetings.

The Chair concluded that co-opting additional members to the Forum is an open issue and will be addressed again at Forum-2, after consideration of possible expertise gaps based on the information from the brief CVs of the members. If the members would like to submit proposals in the meantime, they were kindly asked to fill the form that ECHA would upload to CIRCA after the meeting and submit the form then to ECHA. It was emphasised that the decision on the co-opted members could only be taken in plenary, after the adoption of the ROPs by the Management Board.
Item 5 – Enforcement initiatives – information session

a) Presentation of the Member States Enforcement Project

The MS Enforcement Project was launched in 2006 in order to make preparatory work on REACH enforcement and facilitate the start up of the Forum. The project group members are DK, IE, NL and SE. The project was carried out with the help of a contractor (Royal Haskoning). Two workshops were organised back to back with the Commission Working Group (CWG) subgroup on enforcement. The key subject areas of the project were development of draft Forum ROPs, prioritisation of articles for enforcement, development of harmonised methods and tools for inspectors, defining training needs, identifying the information needs from REACH IT, and investigating the borderlines and possibilities of cooperation between ECHA and MS and within the MS. The project group has also prepared a list of proposals for possible Forum projects.

The final report containing different project papers is expected in February 2008. The Chair thanked the project group for their initiative and efforts. The Forum agreed that the final report of the project is anticipated and will be considered in the future work of the Forum.

b) REACH & Recommendation Establishing Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (2001/331/EC)

Meeting documents: Communication on the Review of RMCEI, Note on REACH and RMCEI, Questionnaire on Revision of RMCEI for IMPEL Members (ECHA/Forum/2007/05/INFO)

The Commission presented the status of the revision of Recommendation 2001/331/EC providing for minimum criteria for environmental inspections in the Member States (RMCEI).

The Commission had prepared a report on the implementation and the application of the RMCEI, based on the reports submitted by the environmental authorities of the Member States, which indicated that the RMCEI is not fully implemented in all Member States and identified some areas for improvement.

A Commission Communication on the review of RMCEI was adopted on the 14 November 2007. It states that the Recommendation does not cover REACH. During the revision procedure environmental authorities concluded that since there could be some overlaps in inspecting installations and activities with chemicals regulated under REACH, it may be desirable to use similar minimum criteria. It had also been suggested that the possible use of RMCEI for REACH enforcement could be assessed by the Forum, as a body composed of experts on REACH enforcement. As the Commission intends to have the final proposal by the end of 2008, would like the Forum to give its feedback by the end of January 2008.

Some of the Forum members were not convinced that including REACH under the scope of RMCEI is feasible as there are many differences between the enforcement of REACH and enforcement of environmental legislation and separate criteria should be developed. However, it was noted that RMCEI may have useful elements for the Forum and the suitable parts could be taken over for its own recommendations. It was suggested that the Commission should also consult Chemical Legislation European Enforcement Network (CLEEN) and the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC), which may have already done some work in this
regard as the networks have experience with enforcement of different provisions of the previous chemicals legislation, partly taken over by REACH. Moreover, it would be impossible for the Forum to elaborate the necessary changes in the text of the Recommendation in the given timeframe.

It was agreed that the Commission should send a brief questionnaire to the REACH Competent Authorities in the Member States and to the Forum members as well as to the Secretariat of CLEEN and SLIC-CHEMEX. The different authorities involved in REACH should coordinate their answers at national level and communicate it to the Forum member.

c) Enforcement Networks at Community Level

Meeting document: Other Relevant Networks at Community Level (ECHA/Forum/2007/06/INFO)

ECHA presented some information on the working methods and activity of other relevant enforcement networks at Community level: CLEEN, SLIC and IMPEL.

The importance of information exchange was underlined for all networks. One Forum member gave examples of useful information exchange systems: EUVICHEM (European Voluntary Information Exchange System on CHEmicals) developed by CLEEN and ICSMS (The internet-supported information and communication system for the pan-European market surveillance of technical products) used by inspectors in some Member States. The topic will be further discussed at Forum-2.

Item 6 – IT Tools

a) CIRCA platform for the Forum

ECHA presented the CIRCA interest group for the Forum. It was specified that CIRCA can be used to store and exchange documents and to facilitate discussion on newsgroups. Members were informed that basic administration of their accounts, such as changing emails, can be managed by users and all requests for adding and removing users – including the advisers as agreed during discussion on ROPs - should be sent to ECHA.

The access to CIRCA for advisers was addressed. Some members proposed that access should be granted to their advisers. It was concluded that the access of the advisers to the Forum documents should be at the discretion of the members, as some members may want to restrict the access of advisers to certain documents and this possibility should remain open.

ECHA was asked to activate the functionality of automatic alerts. ECHA explained that alerts can be managed by users and promised to develop a short document explaining that.

b) REACH IT – Current state of development and plans for accessibility

ECHA presented current planning for the development and implementation of REACH-IT, software supporting the implementation of REACH. The system will be composed of three different applications addressed to the three principal groups of users: industry, ECHA and the Member States Competent Authorities (MSCAs) and the public. REACH-IT will be a web based application hosted at the ECHA and accessible via the internet by users. The build
phase was started in January 2007 and the final version is expected to be installed in March 2008. The planning foresees 1000 users from the ECHA and the MSCAs, who have full access to data stored in REACH-IT.

As enforcement is a national issue, enforcement authorities are currently regarded as external parties and will need to obtain access to REACH-IT from their local MSCA, which is securely connected to ECHA. Online access to REACH-IT can be provided on the premises of the MSCA. This solution was selected as direct access from enforcers to REACH-IT would generate potential security and maintenance problems such as increase in user accounts and physical connections and larger demand for support, especially in light of the security requirements. In addition, it is unclear what the actual information requirements for enforcement are.

The body responsible for discussing the IT security issues related to REACH IT affecting MS is the Security Officers Network (SON), which aims to coordinate the implementation of REACH IT in MS and harmonise security procedures in the MSCAs. The issue of access by enforcers was discussed by SON, whereby it agreed that the needs for data access for enforcement must be clearly identified in a concrete proposal and submitted to ECHA and SON. The Forum is a body that can formally deliver such a proposal, which can then be reviewed, and potential technical solutions may be considered. Once the Forum proposal is submitted and reviewed by the ECHA, the status of enforcement authorities as external parties may be re-evaluated. The technical solutions proposed will depend on the results of the analysis of the Forum proposal.

One of the members stressed that IT staff need input from enforcers and that access to enforcers and other parties will need to be given on a need-to-know basis. It was also stressed that the public website would not be sufficient for enforcement purposes as information on substance identification and information on company is needed. It was concluded that the Forum would address the issue as a matter of priority in order to give timely input to the REACH-IT project.

One of the members inquired if training packages are already available for REACH-IT users. ECHA clarified that they are not ready yet, but training for trainers from MSCAs is foreseen and that includes IT staff.

Item 7 – Work programme of the Forum

a) Introduction to the work programme of the Forum and b) Establishment of ad-hoc working group(s)

ECHA presented the proposals it had received for the Forum Work Programme and then the floor was opened for discussion. There were several proposals for creating different working groups and the members were asked to agree on what has priority among the activities. After
discussion, three working groups were created: Development of the 1st Forum Work Programme, Annex XVII of REACH and Information needed by enforcers from REACH IT. Their mandates and timelines were drafted and the Chairs and members were appointed as laid down in Annex 2. ECHA will upload the descriptions of the working groups on CIRCA after the meeting.

Item 8 – REACH Enforcement in Member States

a) Questionnaire on state of preparations on enforcement

Prior to the meeting, ECHA had made available to the Forum members a document summarising the results of the questionnaire on the state of preparations for enforcement of REACH, which was conducted under the CWG Subgroup on enforcement – concerning the legislative and institutional preparations in the Member States. The results of the questionnaire were collected in August 2007 and ECHA asked the Forum for comments and whether another questionnaire to update the information was needed.

There were no comments from the floor, and it was concluded that a new questionnaire is not necessary at this point of time.

b) Organisation of Enforcement in Member States – the Netherlands

The REACH enforcement system in the Netherlands was presented by the Forum member Joop BLENKERS. The PowerPoint presentation will be made available to the Forum members on CIRCA.

c) Organisation of Enforcement in Member States – Germany

The presentation regarding the REACH enforcement system in Germany was postponed for the second meeting of the Forum.

d) Organisation of Enforcement in Member States – United Kingdom

The REACH enforcement system in the United Kingdom was presented by the Forum member Richard BISHOP. The power point presentation will be made available to the Forum members on CIRCA.

Item 9 – closing

a) Any Other Business and issues for next meeting

ECHA will upload on CIRCA all presentations given during the meeting.

ECHA had prepared a press release during the meeting which would be published immediately after the meeting.

The Chair thanked the participants for their contribution and the Forum members for their trust manifested by electing her as a provisional Chair. She also thanked the members of CWG Subgroup on enforcement, CLEEN and to all who had worked to prepare the start up of the Forum.

The meeting was closed at 14:30 on 12 December 2007.

II. Summary of the decisions and conclusions reached by the Forum

The Forum

- agreed on the draft Rules of Procedure, subject to a scrutiny reserve concerning the wording of the confidentiality provision

- elected a provisional Chair to be in office till the adoption of the Rules of Procedure by the Management Board;
- established three working groups:
  
  i. WG on Development of the 1st Forum Work Programme,
  ii. WG on Annex XVII of REACH Regulation – Advice on enforceability and
  iii. WG on Information needed by enforcers from REACH IT.
III. List of Attendees

Members of the Forum

Rosario ALONSO FERNÁNDEZ (ES)
Ioanna ANGELOPOULOU (GR)
Natali PROMET (EE), attending on behalf of Tiu ARO
Álvaro António BARROQUEIRO (PT)
Richard BISHOP (UK)
Joop BLENKERS (NL)
Ingrid BORG (MT)
Birte Nielsen BORGLUM (DK)
Paul CUYPERS (BE)
Annette EKMAN (FI)
Pavel FORINT (CZ)
Dušan KOLESAR (SK)
Ulrike KOWALSKI (DE)
Tasoula KYPRIANIDOU LEODIDOU (CY)
Edyta MIEGOC (PL)
Tom O’Sullivan (IE)
Parsla PALLO (LV)
Mojca Jeraj PEZDIR (SI)
Pietro PISTOLESE (IT)

Nikolay Stanimirov SAVOV
Gaston Schmit (LU)
Viktoras SESKAUSKAS (LT)
Karin THORAN (SE)
Stéphanie VIERS (FR)
Gernot WURM (AT)

Advisers of the Forum Members

Graziella DI MARZIO (IT)
Michel LEYNEN (BE)
Kaj LOCHER (NL)
Marianne MOILANEN (FI)
Mario NICHELATTI (FR)
Luigia SCIMONELLI (IT)
Barbro SILLREN (SE)
Jos VAN DEN BERG (NL)
Reinhard ZEITLER (DE)

ECHA staff

Geert DANCET (Interim Executive Director)
Anne HAUTAMÄKI (Legal Officer)
Joachim KREYSA (Acting Director ’Cooperation’)
Leena YLÄ-MONONEN (Acting Head of Unit ‘Cooperation’, A2 – Committees)
Maciej BARANSKI (Cooperation, A2 – Committees, Secretariat)
Raluca POPESCU (Cooperation, A2 – Committees, Secretariat)
Kirsten RASMUSSEN (Cooperation, A2 – Committees, RAC Secretariat)
Liisa VAHTERISTO (Cooperation, A2 – Committees, MSC Secretariat)
Petri ENDEN (Resources, R3 – IT)
Remi LEFEVRE (Resources, R2 – Human Resources and Facilities)

IV. List of Annexes

ANNEX 1 List of the meeting documents of Forum-1
ANNEX 2 The Working Groups established by Forum-1

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ANNEX 1

LIST OF THE MEETING DOCUMENTS OF FORUM-1

Draft Rules of Procedure for the Forum (Agenda Item 3)        ECHA/Forum/2007/01
Background Paper of the Forum (Agenda Item 2)                 ECHA/Forum/2007/02
Competence Grid for the Forum (Agenda Item 3)                 ECHA/Forum/2007/03
Results of Enforcement Questionnaire (Agenda Item 4)        ECHA/Forum/2007/04
Communication on the Review of RMCEI (Agenda Item 5) ECHA/Forum/2007/05/INFO
Note on REACH and RMCEI
Questionnaire on Revision of RMCEI for IMPEL Members

Other Relevant Networks at Community Level (Agenda Item 5) ECHA/Forum/2007/06/INFO
ANNEX 2

THE WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY FORUM-1

1. Annex XVII of REACH Regulation – Advice on enforceability

Composition:

Chair: Joop BLENKERS (NL)  External Experts
Forum Members  Jos V.D. BERG (NL)
Nikolay SAVOV (BG)  Mario NICHELATTI (FR)
Ioana ANGELOPOULOU (EL)  Samuel BRUNET (FR)

Draft Mandate:
Prepare draft conclusions of the Forum concerning its advice on enforceability of the Annex XVII of REACH

Timeline:
- Contact of the Forum members with national members of Working Group on Restrictions
- 1st draft revision of Annex XVII discussed by the Working Group on Restrictions on 6 and 7 March 2008. The objective of this revision is to make Annex XVII complete and improve its coherence and terminology, delete obsolete dispositions and at the same time keep the original meaning of the text and be faithful to intention of the legislator.
- Draft revision to be sent to Forum for comments in April 2008
- Report on the WG draft revision sent to Forum 2 for debate
- Input from the Forum expected by WG on Restrictions in 3rd quarter of 2008 at the latest

2. Information needed by enforcers from REACH IT

Composition:

Chair: Stephanie VIERS (FR)  External Experts
Forum Members  Samuel BRUNET (FR)
Karin THORAN (SE)  Eugen ANWANDER (AT)
Rosario ALONSO FERNANDEZ (ES)  Paolo IZZO (IT)

Draft Mandate:
- Define the information needs for enforcers from REACH IT
- Harmonize the information needed by REACH enforcers

Timeline:
- Submission of proposals by the Forum members as soon as possible
3. Development of the 1st Forum Work Programme

Composition:

Chair: Karin THORAN (SE) Ulrike KOWALSKI (DE)
Forum Members Stephanie VIERS (FR)
Viktoras SESKAUSKAS (LT) Richard BISHOP (UK)
Rosario ALONSO FERNANDEZ (ES) External Experts
Tom O’ SULLIVAN (IE) V.D. BERG Jos (NL)

Draft Mandate:
- collect and compile the proposals for Forum activities, their time frame and proposed priorities from the Forum members
- draft the structure of the Forum Work Programme

Timeline:
- submission of proposals by the Forum members in first quarter of 2008
- report to the plenary at Forum