

Opening of the seminar

Seminar on applications for authorisation
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A new process with high expectations

- Authorisation was one of the most controversial aspects of REACH during the negotiations. A lot of expectations have been placed in it.
- Authorisation is also new for all parties involved;
 - We (potential applicants, third parties and ECHA) are entering a “learning by doing” phase, in which communication, pragmatism and sharing of experiences will play a key role.
- Uncertainties remain on how some particular aspects of this procedure will be implemented.
 - ECHA has worked with the Stakeholders and the Commission, to bring clarifications.
 - Some open issues remain but overall the application process is clear.
- Some uncertainties remain on how and when the Industry will apply
 - Early signals from potential applicants are arriving (notifications and pre-submission information sessions)
 - Early signals ensure the best planning of resources to ensure the most efficient handling of forthcoming applications

Transparency

- ECHA's preparations for handling applications for authorisation has been discussed with all the Stakeholders.
 - Seminar on 12 April 2011 with the Industry
 - Three meetings with the NGOs and the Industry on public consultation on alternatives (in 2011-21) published
 - ECHA has participated in several conferences organised by the Industry or the Member States.
 - This is the second meeting, primarily targeted to the potential applicants; followed by a targeted workshop.
- All presentations will be made available on ECHA's website.
- A common understanding, general acceptance and best use of the authorisation procedure is a key for this system to function as it was meant.

Trustworthiness

- Applications for authorisation dossiers and the discussions in the ECHA Committees and the Commission will certainly contain confidential information
- Therefore, appropriate solutions have been found to ensure that (commercially) sensitive information is kept in trust, whilst the overall functioning and objectives of this procedure are guaranteed.
- Management Board, and its advisory group on dissemination, have given their consent on important issues, for instance:
 - What to make public during public consultation
 - How to involve stakeholders and caseowners during opinion making

Objectives for the seminar

- Present how the authorisation requirement and procedure will be implemented.
- Help future applicants to become more familiar with:
 - Their rights and obligations
 - The procedure
 - The formats, templates and pieces of guidance to develop and submit applications for authorisation
- For ECHA, this is an opportunity to receive direct feedback and suggestions on what to further develop or improve.