

Directors' Contact Group

DCG3/Directors meeting/1/Communiqué/2017
15 December 2017

Communiqué

On 15 December 2017, the Directors' Contact Group (DCG) re-convened to continue its work following up its preceding meeting of 27 November (see respective communiqué).

Directors discussed indications that the cost burden on SMEs for accessing data and for jointly submitting their registration dossiers is creating risks to the successful conduct of the REACH 2018 registration exercise to which all DCG members are strongly committed. For considerations of affordability, numerous SMEs are still undecided whether to register their substances. Fewer registrations of phase-in substances could ultimately lead to interruptions of crucial supply chains as well as to unintended market distortions. In many cases, small volume registrants will also be SMEs, which represent a majority of potential "new" (i.e., first time) registrants for the 2018 deadline.

With a view to alleviating these concerns, the DCG adopted a "Recommendation to help small volume and SME registrants in registering for the 2018 REACH Registration deadline" and requested its members to make this recommendation widely known to potential registrants. The DCG requested ECHA to publish it on the Agency's website. Directors drew the attention of readers to the Motivation Report that accompanies the recommendation.

As mentioned in its previous communiqué, the DCG reviewed the four DCG Solutions Nos. 10, 15, 20 and 21 that it had established for the 2010 and 2013 REACH registration deadlines. DCG Directors decided to re-activate these solutions for the 2018 deadline and invited ECHA to make them available from the ECHA Stakeholders' Day of 31 January 2018 onwards. Directors slightly amended the wording of Solutions Nos. 15 and 21, in comparison to the version that was valid in 2010 and 2013.

The DCG decided to re-convene in 2018, in the run-up to the registration deadline, when needed.