

## Summary report of the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of ECHA's Nanomaterials Expert Group (NMEG-16)

ECHA organised the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Nanomaterials Expert Group (NMEG-16) on 25-26 October 2022 (afternoon of day 1 and morning of day 2). It was the first in-person meeting after 3 years (with the possibility to attend also remotely using secure Webex).

The meeting hosted 32 external registered participants, including 23 MSCA experts representing 15 EU Member States<sup>1</sup>, Norway, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the European Commission (DG ENV, DG Grow, JRC) and 6 accredited stakeholder organisations<sup>2</sup>.

### A. Closed session

The closed session was dedicated to REACH dossier evaluation: experts from MSCA, EFSA, JRC and COM discussed the first compliance check draft decisions targeted on Annex VI and sets of similar nanoforms. These draft decisions were sent by ECHA in Q2/2022 and addressed three substances containing sets of similar nanoforms: Multi-Walled Carbon Nanotubes (MWCNT), Synthetic Amorphous Silica (SAS) and Titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>). The registrants provided comments on the draft decisions, and ECHA currently prepares answers to the registrants' comments. The next stage of the regulatory process is the referral of the updated draft decisions to MSCAs.

The main conclusions of the discussion in closed session were the following: MSCAs experts i) expressed their clear support to the ECHA draft decisions sent to registrants and ii) generally also supported ECHA suggested responses to the registrants' comments. Several specific points were further discussed, and a way forward was agreed for the draft decisions on the three substances. An additional exchange (in written procedure) is foreseen for some of the decisions.

### B. Open session

**B1.** ECHA made a **summary for the accredited stakeholders** of the (non-confidential) main points of the discussion held in closed session.

**B2.** The **update on ECHA activities** gave us the opportunity to briefly present the numbers on registered substances in nanoform, to update on the nomenclature work, as well as to remind the EUON achievements and the ongoing guidance work. For information, as of 30 September 2022, 158 registered substances contain nanoforms and there were 713 registrations with nano information.

**B3.** DG-ENV made a presentation on the **status of the revised Commission recommendation 2011/696/EU on the definition of nanomaterial and the next steps**. The agreed changes in the nanomaterial definition recommendation are only minor.

**B4.** In relation to this revised recommendation, JRC presented an **update on the guidance for the EC recommendation on the definition of nanomaterials** and explained some very practical aspects of the implementation of this new recommendation.

**B5.** A DTU/DK expert provided an **update on environmental exposure estimation for nanomaterials, on nano-specific methods currently available, and on PNEC derivation** and shared some ideas on potential future ECHA guidance update.

**B6.** NL/RIVM described the **testing of nanomaterials for different EU legislations and (potential) needs for updating OECD TGs** and the benefit of information exchanges across fields.

More information about this meeting may be found on the [NMEG webpage](#).

<sup>1</sup> AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, RO and SE.

<sup>2</sup> CEFIC, Eurometaux, ECETOC, EEB, Eurogroup for Animals and PSCI.

The next meeting (NMEG-17) is planned to take place on 18-19 April 2023.

**Substances discussed at the 16<sup>th</sup> NMEG meeting:**

<b>EC number</b>	<b>Substance name</b>	<b>Regulatory Process</b>	<b>session</b>
936-414-1	Multi-Walled Carbon Nanotubes (MWCNT)	REACH CCH (Annex VI) - before MSCA referral	Closed
231-545-4	Synthetic Amorphous Silica (SAS)	REACH CCH (Annex VI) - before MSCA referral	Closed
236-675-5	Titanium dioxide (TiO <sub>2</sub> )	REACH CCH (Annex VI) - before MSCA referral	Closed