



# EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

#ChemicalsStrategy  
#EUGreenDeal



European  
Commission

# Building on an advanced framework and extensive policy evaluations and input

Fitness check of the most relevant chemicals legislation (excluding REACH)

REACH Review

Many other specific evaluations

Conference in June 2019

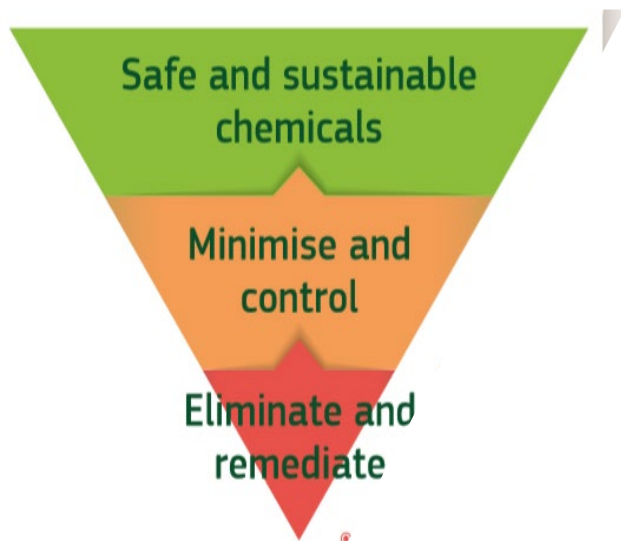
Roadmap consulted

Council Conclusions 2019

EP Resolution 2020



# 2030 vision – towards a toxic-free environment



- Chemicals are produced/used in a way that **maximises their benefits to society** while **avoiding harm to planet & people**
- Production and use of *safe and sustainable chemicals* becomes the EU market norm and a global standard

# TOXIC-FREE ENVIRONMENT: 5 building blocks

Innovation,  
competitiveness,  
recovery

Strengthen  
legislation for  
better protection

Simplification  
& coherence

Knowledge and  
science

Global

# 1. Boosting innovation



- Promoting chemicals that are **safe and sustainable-by-design: criteria and support network**
- **Support industrial innovation** : climate neutral & clean production
- **Identify key chemical value chains/technologies** & promote open strategic autonomy
- **Non-toxic material cycles** in products & waste decontamination solutions

## 2. Strengthening legislation (general)

- What: **Proposals to extend the generic approach to risk management** to ensure that consumer products do not contain chemicals that cause cancers, gene mutations, affect the reproductive or the endocrine system, or are persistent and bioaccumulative and toxic;
  - assess the modalities and timing to extend the same approach to further chemicals including those affecting the immune, neurological or respiratory systems and chemicals toxic to a specific organ (we still want to allow for the use of these most harmful chemicals where proven essential for society)
- How: **REACH** and other sectorial legislation



## 2. Strengthening legislation (general)

- What: While the generic approach to risk management is not in place, **prioritise** all these listed substances for restrictions and through grouping, instead of regulating them one by one;
- How: Roadmap to prioritise CMRs, endocrine disruptors, PBT and vPvB, immunotoxicants, neurotoxicants, substances toxic to specific organs and respiratory sensitisers for (group) **restrictions under REACH**





## 2. Strengthening legislation (general)

- **Define criteria for essential uses** for application in all relevant EU legislation
- Introduce mandatory legal requirements under the General Product Safety Directive and **restrictions in REACH** to enhance the **safety of children** from hazardous chemicals in childcare articles and other products for children (other than toys)
- Proposal to amend **REACH Article 68(2)** to include **professional users**





## 2. Strengthening legislation (ED)

- Proposal to amend **REACH Article 57** to add endocrine disruptors, persistent, mobile and toxic (PMT) and very persistent and very mobile (vPvM) substances to the list of substances of very high concern
- Ensure that **sufficient and appropriate information** is made available to authorities to allow the identification of endocrine disruptors by reviewing and strengthening information requirements across legislation (**REACH**, Biocidal Products Regulation, Plant Protection Products Regulation, Food Contact Materials Regulation, Cosmetic Products Regulation)
- Accelerate the development and uptake of methods to generate information on endocrine disruptors through screening and testing of substances.



## 2. Strengthening legislation (mixtures)

- Assess how to best introduce in REACH (a) **mixture assessment factor(s)** for the chemical safety assessment of substances REACH Comitology)
- Introduce or reinforce provisions to take account of the **combination effects of chemicals** in other legislation (water, food contact materials, food additives, toys, detergents, cosmetics).



## 2. Strengthening legislation (PFAS)

- Proposal to **restrict PFAS under REACH** for all non-essential uses including in consumer products
- address PFAS with a **group approach**, under relevant legislation on water, sustainable products, food, industrial emissions, and waste;



# 3. Simplifying and consolidating

- **'One substance, one assessment':**

- **Improve transparency** via a tool to give overview of all planned and ongoing initiatives, discussion with MS and agencies, internal Commission coordination mechanisms
- **Reallocation of scientific work**



- Reform the **authorisation and restriction** processes under REACH

## 4. A comprehensive knowledge base

- Proposals to revise **requirements for registration in REACH** to ensure: the identification of substances with critical hazard properties, including effects on the nervous and immune systems, the move towards grouping approaches, the registration of a sub-set of polymers, information on the overall environmental footprint of chemicals, the obligation of chemical safety reports for substances between 1-10 tonnes
- **More actions** regarding research and innovation , new and innovative testing methods, commitment to monitoring, indicators, and an early warning system.



## 5. Setting the example globally

- Promote - with international organisations and industry - the use of the **UN GHS internationally**
- Support, in particular through funding, to **build the capacity of third countries** to assess and manage chemicals
- Ensure that hazardous chemicals banned in the European Union are **not produced for export** including by amending relevant legislation if and as needed.



# Processes and participation

- **High level roundtable:**
  - Industry, incl. SMEs
  - Science
  - Civil society
- **Targeted** amendments of REACH, CLP and sectoral legislation
- Legislative processes will be **underpinned by better regulation including impact assessments**







# Thank you

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