

#1



COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Friday, May 27, 2016 1:07:32 PM

Last Modified: Friday, May 27, 2016 2:24:47 PM

Time Spent: 01:17:14

IP Address:

PAGE 2: Part I – General Information about Respondents

Q1: Address

Contact name

FAVRY Véronique

Organisation/company

Glass Alliance Europe

Country

Belgique

Email Address

Q2: If you have a Transparency Register ID number, please provide it below. If your organisation is not registered, you have the opportunity to register now by following this link. If your entity responds without being registered, the Commission will consider its input as that of an individual/private person and, as such, will publish it separately.

74505036439-88

Q3: Received contributions may be published on the Commission's website, with the identity of the contributor. Please state your preference with regard to the publication of your contribution. Please note that regardless of the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under Regulation 1049/2001 on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In such cases, the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable data protection rules.

My contribution may be published under the name indicated; I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication

Q4: We might need to contact you to clarify some of your answers. Please state your preference below:

I am available to be contacted

Q5: Please indicate whether you are replying to this questionnaire as:

An industry association

Q6: If a business or industry association, please indicate your field(s) of interest or activity(ies) - the letters in between brackets correspond to NACE codes [multiple choice]:

Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products (C23)

Q7: For businesses, please indicate the size of your business: The definition of small and medium-sized enterprises depends on the staff headcount and either the annual turnover or the balance sheet of the company. Please consult the following website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition/index_en.htm

Respondent skipped this question

Q8: Please indicate the level at which your organisation is active: EU

PAGE 3: Part II – General Questions

Q9: How important is it in your view that there is chemical and chemical-related legislation* at EU-level in order to achieve the following objectives? (1 = not important; 5= very important)*This comprises the chemical-related provisions in all legislation within the scope of this fitness check. It encompasses legislation governing hazard identification and classification, as well as risk management measures, including chemical-related aspects of legislation on worker safety, transport, environmental protection, chemicals controls and supporting legislation, excluding REACH. The full list of legislation can be found here.The internal market of the European Union (EU) is a single market in which the goods, services, capital and persons can move freely across borders. One of the key objectives of chemical and chemical-related legislation is to have a single market for chemical substances and mixtures, as well as products containing chemicals.**

Protecting human health	4
Protecting the environment	4
Ensuring a well-functioning internal market**	5
Stimulating competitiveness and innovation	5

Q10: Do you think the EU chemical and chemical-related legislation has been effective in achieving the following objectives? (1= not effective, 5= very effective). Please only consider chemical-related provisions in the legislation.

Protecting human health	4
Protecting the environment	4
Ensuring a well-functioning internal market	2
Stimulating competitiveness and innovation	2

Q11: If you think the EU chemical and chemical-related legislation is not effective (1) or only somewhat (2,3) effective, please indicate what you believe are the main reasons for this limited effectiveness in the following table:

Protecting human health	The legislation is unclear
Protecting the environment	The legislation is unclear
Ensuring a well-functioning internal market	The legislation is not adapted to the issues at stake
Stimulating competitiveness and innovation	The legislation is not adapted to the issues at stake

Q12: To what extent do you consider that EU chemical and chemical-related legislation has had an added value above what could have been achieved through action at a national level? (1= no value, 5= a very high added value)

EU-level legislation adds value to national level action	5
--	---

PAGE 4: Part III - Specific Questions

Consultation on the regulatory fitness of chemicals legislation (excluding REACH)

Q13: For businesses and industry associations - Please select the legislation that regulates or otherwise affects your sector's or your company's activities. For other stakeholders - Please select the legislation you are familiar with.

Classification, labelling and packaging (Regulation No (EC) 1272/2008)
,
Biocidal products (Regulation (EU) No 528/2012),
REACH, Annex XIII (Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006)
,
Chemical Agents (Directive 98/24/EC),
Asbestos (Directive 2009/148/EC),
Carcinogens and mutagens at work (Directive 2004/37/EC)
,
Young people at work (Directive 1994/33/EC),
Pregnant workers (Directive 1992/85/EEC),
Signs at work (Directive 92/58/EEC),
Industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control) (Directive 2010/75/EU)
,
Waste framework (Directive 2008/98/EC) and List of Waste
,
Waste shipments (Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006),
Major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances (Seveso) (Directive 2012/18/EU)
,
Water Framework (Directive 2000/60/EC),
Restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment (Directive 2011/65/EU)
,
End of life vehicles (Directive 2000/53/EC),
Packaging and Packaging Waste (Directive 94/62/EC)
,
EU Ecolabel (Regulation (EC) 66/2010),
Safety of toys (Directive 2009/48/EC),
Cosmetic products (Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009),
Drinking Water (Directive 98/83/EC),
Medical devices (Directive 93/42/EEC regarding medical devices, Directive 90/385/EEC regarding active implantable medical devices, and Directive 98/79/EC regarding in vitro diagnostic medical devices, under revision)
,
Directive 2004/109/EC

Pressure equipment (Directive 2014/68/EU),

Food contact materials (Regulation (EC) No 10/2011
and Regulation (EC) No 450/2009)

,

General Product Safety (Directive 2001/95/EC),

Good Laboratory Practice (Directives 2004/9/EC and
2004/10/EC)

PAGE 5: Effectiveness

Q14: In the EU legislative framework for chemicals, risk management measures are, in some cases, determined directly based on the identified hazard using generic risk considerations (e.g. widespread exposure or exposure of vulnerable groups), which justify the automatic adoption of such measures. In other cases, the risk management measures are determined by a specific risk assessment that assesses the probability of adverse health and environmental effects resulting from the specific exposure scenarios associated with the proposed use(s) of the chemical. In your view, do you think EU chemical and chemical-related legislation should, in general:

a. Be more oriented towards specific risk assessments (i.e. differentiate more between chemicals depending on their use despite the possibility of prolonged discussions and implementation delays)

,

If you answered a or b, please explain
Decision based only on hazard gives rise to excessive and undue management burdens. Legislation should be based on risks in order to protect efficiently human health and the environment, to secure competitiveness and jobs. Over precautionous or no scientifically-justified safety assessments should be avoided.

Q15: In your view, apart from the hazard and/or risk of a chemical substance or mixture, are all relevant considerations taken into account in regulatory decision making on risk management (e.g. whether there will be combined effects of chemicals, whether there are certain vulnerable groups, whether there will be impacts on jobs or on the competitiveness of EU industry, etc.)? Please explain your answer.

No,

If you answered no, please explain which considerations are not (sufficiently) taken into account and, if relevant, explain which legislation you are referring to.
Inception impact assessments should be systematic and better address employment and competitiveness issues across the business chain. Instead of a ban of products or applications by reference to the protection of extremely targeted population, the recourse to adequate labelling/restriction should be favoured as a valid regulatory alternative. Moreover, there is a physical/chemical limit to the possibility of substitutions, which should be recognised instead of forcing companies to pursue undue research for substitution (e.g. glass constituents under the RoHS). Emphasis of chemical legislation should be on risk, not hazard, hazard being one of the components of risk. The other factors leading to risk (presence of a receptor and pathway) seem often ignored.

Q16: In your view, to what extent are the following elements of the overall EU legislative framework for chemicals satisfactory? (1= not satisfactory, 5= very satisfactory)

Transparency of procedures	3
Speed with which hazards/risks are identified	4
Speed with which identified risks are addressed	4
Time to allow duty holders to adapt	3
Predictability of the outcomes	2
Stability of the legal framework	3
Clarity of the legal texts	1
Guidance documents and implementation support	2
Effective implementation and enforcement across Member States	1
Consistent implementation and enforcement across Member States	2
Public awareness and outreach	I don't know
International collaboration and harmonisation	2
Please explain your answers and list any other aspect you consider relevant. If you have specific legislation in mind, please specify it.	We need unequivocal dispositions in Directives/Regulations in order to have a common level playing field across member states. Harmonisation and international collaboration are too low and this is creating barriers to trade. We need more stability, predictability and longer adaptation periods. Examples: BREF and the different interpretation by members states ; missing harmonised regulation within the FCM framework for several materials (incl. glass) to avoid different thresholds and testing methods among member states.

Q17: In your view, to what extent are the following elements of risk management satisfactory? (1= not satisfactory, 5= very satisfactory)

Hazard identification criteria	3
Risk assessment and characterisation	2
Hazard and risk communication measures to consumers (e.g. labels, pictograms, etc.)	3
Hazard and risk communication measures to workers (e.g. labels, pictograms, safety data sheets etc.)	3
Risk management measures restricting or banning the use of chemicals	4
Risk management measures regulating the safe use of chemicals (e.g. packaging requirements or requirements for the use of personal protective equipment)	3

If you answered 1, 2 or 3 above and would like to provide further information (in particular on specific pieces of legislation), please explain your answers.

There is a run to bigger safety assessment factors, without scientific justification. It gives rise to extremely low limit values whose implementation cost is creating an excessive burden. The ban or limitation Risk Management Measures for chemicals is then disproportionate of the objectives. Hazard communication (under CLP) has become more complete, but also more leading to information overload and hence less understanding for workers. Excessive labelling (beyond pictogrammes) and difficult to read extended safety data sheets lead to dilution of valuable information and hence to an effect contrary to the intent.

Q18: Safety data for chemicals is subject to quality requirements, notably Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), aimed at ensuring the reliability and reproducibility of the data. Do you consider these requirements to be appropriate?

Yes,

If you answered no, please explain your answer
However, a rough indication of the concentration of a contaminant is often sufficient to identify a risk. GLP should be limited to cases where it is appropriate and high precision is needed.

Q19: In your view, what are the most significant benefits generated for EU society by the EU chemical and chemical related legislation? (one or more answers possible)

Reducing the exposure of consumers and of citizens in general to toxic chemicals and, therefore, avoiding healthcare costs, lost productivity, etc.

,

Reducing the exposure of workers to toxic chemicals and, therefore, avoiding healthcare costs, lost productivity, etc.

,

Reducing the damage to the environment and to eco-systems and, therefore, avoiding the costs of treating contaminated water, restoring impacted fisheries, cleaning-up of contaminated land, compensating for reduced crop pollinisation, etc.

Q20: In your view, what are the most significant costs incurred by EU society due to EU chemical and chemical related legislation? (one or more answers possible)

Costs for small and medium sized enterprises,

Costs for large enterprises,

Costs for society in general

Q21: In your view, do any of the following requirements in the legislative framework lead to significant costs for companies?

Classification requirements for substances and mixtures

,

Risk management measures under the different legislation

,

Understanding and keeping up-to-date with changes in legal requirements

,

Training staff to ensure compliance with legal requirements

,

Other (please specify)
Classification has a domino effect on a range of EU legislation, without taking into account specific risk assessment.

Q22: Are there specific requirements in the EU chemicals legislative framework which lead to particularly significant costs for authorities?

I don't know

PAGE 7: Relevance

Q23: To what extent has the EU legislative framework for chemicals contributed to a reduction in the number and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or their substitution with safer alternatives? (1= no contribution, 5= a large contribution)

Framework has led to a reduction in the number and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or their substitution with safer alternatives

4

Q24: To what extent does the existing EU legislative framework sufficiently address emerging areas of concern, e.g. arising from advances in science and technology? (1= emerging areas of concern are not sufficiently addressed, 5 = emerging areas of concern are sufficiently addressed)

Novel areas of concern sufficiently addressed by framework 3

Please comment

"New" hazards identification is too long, therefore stability and predictability is not enough to allow investment and R&D effort, and also increase importation (with associated risks). "New" use (innovation) is not quickly implemented within regulation approach. Some specificities are not well assessed. As an example, the fact that glass is a substance and not a special mixture as metallic alloy is not enough taken into account.

PAGE 8: Coherence

Q25: Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements relating to the EU chemicals legislation framework overall

The EU chemicals legislation framework contains gaps and missing links Agree

The EU chemicals legislation framework has overlaps Agree

The EU chemicals legislation framework is internally inconsistent Agree

Q26: Please indicate any incoherence (gaps or missing links, overlaps, inconsistencies etc.) between the different pieces of legislation which are under the scope of this fitness check. Please only consider aspects related to hazard identification, risk assessment and risk management of chemicals. The legislation covered by this fitness check can be found here.

Gaps or missing links Glass is not harmonised in the food contact framework

Overlaps Glass is a substance. The derogation under RoHS should not be reopened by any REACH authorisation process. A use could be covered by a specific derogation but still under a more generic regulation. A mutual recognition of derogation should be implemented to avoid submission of the same document within different frameworks.

Inconsistencies Glass is treated as a substance under REACH. Once glass is produced, its constituents (raw materials) do not exist anymore. Some legislation should clarify this so as to avoid inappropriate legislation on glass. For instance, glass sectors use respirable crystalline silica (RCS) but do not process RCS dust. This is sometimes leading to confusing requests and questions and requires substantial scientific explanation.

Q27: Please indicate any incoherence (gaps or missing links, overlaps, inconsistencies etc.) between legislation which are covered by this fitness check and any other legislation you consider relevant as regards the regulation and risk management of chemicals.

The definition of a substance is often incoherent. Glass is considered as a substance under the Waste Directive but as an addition of its constituents under the CLP, which is totally wrong.

Some RoHS measures are inconsistent:

- limit for lead in RoHS is not in compliance with REACH Annex XVII, item 63 for lead
- limit for cadmium in RoHS is not in compliance with REACH Annex XVII, item 23 for cadmium.

PAGE 9: Part IV: Specific questions on the CLP Regulation

Q28: CLP communicates hazards to workers and consumers through various label elements, including danger words, pictograms, hazard statements and precautionary statements. (1= not effective; 5= very effective)

To what extent are CLP labels effective in communicating hazards to workers?	5
To what extent are CLP labels effective in communicating hazards to consumers?	I don't know

Q29: Do the hazard classes in the CLP Regulation cover all relevant hazards?

Environmental	Yes
Physical	Yes
Human health	Yes

Q30: How effective is the support to companies through formal guidance documents and national helpdesks? (1= not effective; 5= very effective)

Guidance documents	2
Helpdesks	4
Industry association guidance and materials	4
Other (training, conferences, etc.)	3
Please add further details as necessary	Clearer official summaries on the status of exemptions (e.g. under RoHS or the Eco Design Directive) would be appreciated. Indeed, Commission's guidelines have an explanatory role but are sometimes considered as laws by national authorities. They therefore create legal uncertainty which lead companies to adopt an overprecautionary legal approach in their decisions, thereby adding excessive costs for their operations.

Q31: To what extent is CLP enforced in a harmonised manner across Member States?

Enforcement is not harmonised across most Member States

,
Please add further details as necessary
Poor enforcement of the CLP across the EU, particularly concerning the provision of CLP compliant safety data sheets (SDSs). Even after numerous requests, some suppliers are still not supplying compliant SDSs.

Q32: To what extent are the current elements relating to the CLP classification criteria satisfactory? (1= not satisfactory; 5= very satisfactory)

Ease of implementation for duty holders

I don't know

Appropriateness of classification criteria and methods for substances

3

Appropriateness of classification criteria and methods for mixtures

3

International harmonisation through the Globally Harmonised System (GHS)

2

If you answered 1, 2 or 3 and would like to provide further information, please explain your answer

The GHS is unfortunately not harmonised and major issues are observed due to the implementation of different versions of the GHS across the globe, in addition to local variations from the harmonised approach. Stronger harmonisation would reduce the risk of misinterpretation due to subtle variations. Legal stability framework is key.

Q33: CLP is revised on a regular basis through adaptations to technical progress. Do transitional periods allow sufficient time to implement new or revised classification criteria?

Transition period is sufficient

Q34: To what extent are the current elements of the procedures for harmonised classification & labelling (CLH) satisfactory? (1= not satisfactory; 5= very satisfactory)

Transparency of the procedures

4

Involvement of stakeholders

3

Quality of scientific data and related information

3

Speed of the procedure

3

If you answered 1, 2 or 3 and would like to provide further information, please explain your answers

Too much emphasis is given to chemicals suppliers and not enough to downstream users.

Q35: In case you have any additional comments with relevance for this public consultation, please insert them here.

There is more regulatory burden on EU producers and this may be damaging to their international competitiveness. EU chemicals legislation should follow harmonised classification and not comply with criteria without scientific justification. The CLP should not be based on listings by non EU external bodies, and the CMD should provide a scientific justification when it is planned to include a substance not yet harmonised under EU classification (e.g. RCS).
