

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER SAFETY (SCCS)

**Request for a scientific opinion:** Submission IV on Dichloromethane (CAS No 75-09-2).

### 1. Background

Dichloromethane (CAS No 75-09-2) is currently listed in Annex III (Entry 7) of the Cosmetics Regulation (EC) 1223/2009 to be used as solvent in cosmetic products with concentration limits up to 35% and furthermore, when the substance is mixed with 1,1,1-trichloroethane, the total concentration must not exceed 35%. In addition, under column (h) "Other" entry III/7 states "0.2% as maximum impurity content". The safety of these use conditions were confirmed by two scientific assessments in 1987 and 1989.

Dichloromethane has been classified as CMR 2 substance by the CLP Regulation (EC) 1272/2008. Regarding CMR 2 substances, Article 15.1 of the Cosmetic Regulation states that:

*"The use in cosmetic products of substances classified as CMR substances, of category 2, under Part 3 of Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 shall be prohibited. However, a substance classified in category 2 may be used in cosmetic products where the substance has been evaluated by the SCCS and found safe for use in cosmetic products."*

The latest opinion of the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) of 11 December 2012 on the safety assessment of Dichloromethane with concentration up to 35% in cosmetic products concluded that:

*"...Based on the available data on exposure by hair spraying and limited data on neurobehavioral and neurodevelopmental effects of dichloromethane after short-term exposure, dichloromethane in a concentration of up to 35% in hair sprays is not considered safe for the consumer" (SCCS/1408/11)<sup>1</sup>*

Following these conclusions, in August 2014 EFfCI<sup>2</sup> has provided new data on the neurobehavioural effects and the exposure-related observations in humans of Dichloromethane.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific\\_committees/consumer\\_safety/docs/sccs\\_o\\_118.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/consumer_safety/docs/sccs_o_118.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> The European Federation for Cosmetic Ingredients

## **2. Terms of reference**

- (1) *In light of the new data provided, does the SCCS consider Dichloromethane (CAS No 75-09-2) safe when used in cosmetic products under the current use conditions up to maximum of 35%?*
- (2) *Can the SCCS assess whether the restriction on purity present in column (h) is related to purity criteria for the dichloromethane itself or is related to its presence as an impurity in cosmetic products that should be restricted to 0.2%?*
- (3) *Does the SCCS have any further scientific concern regard the use of Dichloromethane in cosmetic products?*

## **3. Deadline:**

## **4. Supporting documents**

1. ECSA<sup>3</sup> Comment to the SCCS request on DCM - August 2014
2. Studies folder

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<sup>3</sup> ECSA – European Chlorinated Solvent Association