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| Management committee meeting 06/2021 | |
| Minutes | Web Conference 29 June 2021 10:30-13:30 |

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| **Participants:**  *By phone:*  Ina Andreasen, RB  Walter Aulmann, Ecolab  Ian Croft, McBride  Pilar Espina, Adelma  Bernd Glassl, IKW  Marten Kops, N.V.Z.  Gerard Luijkx, Unilever (Vice-Chairman)  Joachim Noac, KoHB  Eleni Papadimitriou, PG  Thomas Rauch, I.H.O. *(partly)*  Rob Roggeband, P&G  Felix Rustemeyer, Henkel  Hynek Sery, P&G *(partly*)  Françoise van Tiggelen, Detic  Edward Whittle, SC Johnson  *Guest:*  Ludger Grunwald, Ecolab *(afternoon session)* | *From A.I.S.E.:*  Cindy Chhuon  Luca Conti  Zivile Kairyte  Sascha Nissen  Jan Robinson  Giulia Sebastio *(partly)*  Valérie Séjourné *(partly)*  Mohamed Temsamani  Amelie Weber  Susanne Zänker  Apologies  Ad Jespers, Diversey (Chairman) |
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1. WELCOME AND REMINDER OF COMPETITION LAW

In absence of the Chair of the MC, the Vice-chair, Gerard Luijkx opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. A warm welcome was given to Joachim Noac from the Danish Association and also to two new A.I.S.E. Team members, namely Cindy Chhuon (joining the scientific and regulatory team to cover mainly CLP and in-vitro) and Zivile Kairyte (joining the Communication team to enhance among others our social media skills).

The Competition Law rules were reminded, and all participants agreed to adhere.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & REVIEW OF ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING (18 May 2021)

The actions from the last meeting were reviewed, they are either undertaken or covered through the agenda.

The Minutes were approved.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda (revised version sent out on 28.6.2021) was approved.

1. KEY TOPICS *(for discussion)*
   1. European Green Deal (*J.Robinson, M. Temsamani, S.Nissen, L.Conti, A. Weber)*
      1. CSS/Zero Pollution *(J.Robinson)*
         1. **High Level Roundtable – work programme**

The MC was informed about the “Sherpas” meeting on 22 June, including the decision for “enforcement / level playing field” as the discussion topic for the next HLRT meeting due in November 2021. The Sherpas will need to develop a report for the meeting, starting from a background document to be shared by the Commission by the end of July, so members should be prepared for documents to be circulated for review and commenting over the summer.

* + - 1. **Safe and Sustainable by Design – survey response** *(for endorsement)*

The MC members were broadly in agreement with the A.I.S.E. draft response developed through discussion in the CSS/ZP Steering Group and alignment with other industry sectors. Some small suggestions were offered for modification of the free text answers, to be sent in writing. The final version was to be submitted on 30 June, the Commission’s deadline.

***Post meeting note: submitted to the Commission on 30 June***

* + - 1. **REACH & CLP revision**

Presentations made by the Commission to the 40th meeting of CARACAL (29-30 June) on the status of these plans were shared with the MC (see slides: [A.I.S.E. position REACH IIA](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/12556) and [A.I.S.E position CLP IIA](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/12555)). The coming months will see intense activity, with a public consultation on CLP and parallel impact assessment studies to support the revision proposals for both REACH and CLP.

It was queried why some new hazard classes will be added directly to CLP, whilst some other new criteria will be held back pending discussion at UNSCEGHS: this is due primarily to legal basis, in that the EU cannot unilaterally amend existing GHS building blocks but is not prevented from adding new ones which do not exist at all at UN level. It was noted that for endocrine disruptors a Cat. 2 (suspected ED) is intended, which should not be based on *in vitro* alerts alone; this was agreed, and already forms a key element of the advocacy positions of Cefic and DUCC, among others.

* + - 1. **Impact assessment project status** *(for info)*

The deadline of 1 July for the initial data collection was fast approaching, and to date only 5 submissions had been received but only two formal notifications of a delay. Several participating members had not yet returned their signed NDAs, which is a critical pre-requisite to move ahead with the project; the model NDA had been reviewed and pre-approved by the A.I.S.E. Legal Panel, so significant changes should in principle not be necessary. For the next phase (Phase 1, Economic Consultation) a webinar will be organised with Ricardo for the members in course of July, date tbc.

***ACTION:  
- Participating companies to inform A.I.S.E. and Ricardo in writing about any requests for additional time to complete the data submission.***

* + - 1. **Zero Pollution Action Plan – priorities/activities** *(for info)*

The MC was informed that the CSS/ZP SG had carried out a prioritisation of the actions annexed to the ZPAP communication and identified only limited areas for targeted action by A.I.S.E. ([see slides)](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/12557). No further questions were raised on the topic.

* + 1. A.I.S.E. activities linked to the CEAP
       1. **Technical proposal for COM on integrating EF elements in the Charter**

This technical proposal was submitted on 28 June to the Environmental Footprint team, DG ENVI of the European Commission, which had been approved by the Board. This document addresses points which were raised during a meeting with the COM DG ENVI EF team end of April. It summarises A.I.S.E.’s proposal on how to address the objectives of the substantiation of green claims initiative, making the Charter future-proof and integrating robust PEF methods/ components.

* + - 1. **Update on different workstreams**

The MC approved a project on product cleaning performance in terms of plan, objectives and its funding (see presentation for more details), and it was agreed to ask the Board for endorsement during its extra-ordinary call on 7 July.

The project costs for this phase involving laundry detergents are estimated at EUR 70K. It will be covered via the central A.I.S.E. Green Deal budget, as this will support the overall A.I.S.E. strategy.

Some technical questions were raised (e.g., available IKW test methods for other product categories), and it was agreed to keep those with the CEAP sub-group on performance. In addition, the point was raised to ask the European Commission for funding as this would add complexity and may delay the process. Also, during the aforementioned meeting with DG ENVI, the European Commission clarified that they would not have sufficient resources to support sector specific activities.

On another topic, the MC was updated on the workstream, covering sustainability product information and how this may be provided to consumers, helping them with their purchase decision and how to best use the products. It is planned to ask the Board for approval to combine some consumer testing with the digitalisation pilot – see also agenda item ‘5.1. Digitalisation Roadmap & Pilot’ and presentation for details.

* + - 1. **Empowering consumers in the green transition initiative**

The MC was informed that in parallel with the technical work on substantiation of green claims A.I.S.E. is also working on the “twin” initiative on “empowering consumers towards the green transition”. A.I.S.E. has started its internal assessment on the preferred options and to elaborate its position ahead of the legislative proposal (Q4 2021). Together with the link with the substantiation of green claims initiative, the monitoring of the developments of relevant initiatives at national level on Products information and green claims for detergents products (e.g., new French Law and Clean Project in some EU Countries) will continue. A.I.S.E. intends to organise internal discussions on the topic in the next few months in order to better elaborate its position during Fall 2021.

* + - 1. SPI: **Submission of Public Consultation** *(for written information)*

No further question was raised on the topic.

* 1. Digitalisation Roadmap & Pilot *(V.Séjourné)*

A.I.S.E presented on the recommendation to run an online pilot test with consumers, to check consumer reactions to the provision of information online for both safety and sustainability information. This pilot would be run over the summer, notably to help provide input to the Commission consultant study on hazard info.

The initial proposal was to run a qualitative study in August in France, then quantitative studies in France, Germany, Poland.

The comment was made that the timing being proposed seemed challenging. For the safety/hazard information the timing was more achievable than for the sustainability info. Members preferred to have quality and both components included in the study, rather than rushing the pilot and not have the full set of results in the end.

It was noted that no Nordic country had been included in the pilot, although these countries have been very vocal. This was due to financial reasons. However, the point was raised that Nordic countries could ignore European data if they were not included. It was understood there would be budget implications to including a Nordic country.

Using a QR code was questioned as it was argued whether this would actually save space. The exact tool to be used was still being discussed. The study would focus rather on the reactions of consumers to online information.

Finally, the MC emphasised that labels would need to be multilingual and indeed it was confirmed. Each label would likely have three languages to be realistic for that market.

A.I.S.E. was asked to articulate further details on the study and how it would be implemented for the board meeting.

* 1. Alleged dual quality of household products: latest developments *(M.Temsamani)*

Members were informed about the upcoming invitation to the Commission Joint Research Center’s meeting on 8 July to establish a work plan to develop a test methodology to assess non-food products.

Members were informed about the preparatory meeting A.I.S.E. held with AIM and Cosmetics Europe in anticipation of the meeting.

***ACTION:  
- A.I.S.E. to debrief the membership following the meeting, and work out a proposal accordingly as regards resources, participation, expertise, advocacy.***

* 1. Dual Distribution Channel: Vertical Block Exemption Regulation Review *(L.Conti)*

The MC was asked to decide whether A.I.S.E. should co-sign the AIM letter addressed to the European Commission to oppose to the potential inclusion of Dual Distribution in the revision Vertical Block Exemption Regulation. Considering the limited knowledge of A.I.S.E. on the subject and on the impact for our sector, together with the short deadline to decide, the MC decided that A.I.S.E. shall not co-sign the letter.

1. Update from the Board meeting on 15 June 2021 *(S.Zänker)*

The last Board meeting, just a couple of hours before the GA, was a short one covering most of the above discussed topics. A request from the Board was made to have additional extra-calls prior to the next ordinary meeting in October to progress specific topics, the next one on 7 July would cover the Digitalisation Project and the performance testing as discussed above.

In addition, discussion took place on the developments of the A.I.S.E. budget and reserves. With the increasing projects under the Green Deal the expenses are going up, while on the other hand due to some changes in the membership e.g., reduced fees for UKCPI and loss of one member, the income is decreasing. A revision of the membership fees for 2023 is therefore needed to ensure a sustainable financial basis of the association to operate.

Another project started with the Board members was mentioned, namely, to explore with mainly the companies’ members where they see innovation to happen to ensure the transition towards the Green Deal objectives. Based on this A.I.S.E. aims to articulate the needs to the Commission for supporting this innovation to materialise when discussing the different elements of the Green Deal. In addition, the exercise serves to check whether the Industry Vision and A.I.S.E. Mission as adopted in 2016 are still valid. The process may lead to update the current A.I.S.E. Strategy 2025 to become the A.I.S.E. Strategy 2030.

1. for information/ Questions only

No question was raised to the below topics, for more information [see pre-reads](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/12387)

* 1. Detergent Regulation (G.Sebastio)
  2. 1,4 – dioxane (G.Sebastio)
  3. Skin sensitizers and ‘Risk Mitigation Measures for treated articles’ *(N.Hanon)*
  4. In vitro project and publication *(J.Robinson)*
  5. Ethanol harmonised classification *(J.Robinson)*
  6. Activity & Sustainability Report 20-21 *(V.Séjourné)*
  7. A.I.S.E. Positions on Extranet *(V.Séjourné)*
  8. PSP Capsules update/New safe use icon *(V.Séjourné)*
  9. Microplastics: Advocacy *(M. Temsamani/J.Robinson)*
  10. Single-use plastics Directive *(M.Temsamani)*
  11. General Product Safety Directive *(M.Temsamani)*
  12. Better Regulation: A.I.S.E. Joint Statement *(L.Conti)*
  13. ERASM budget and project proposals *(J.Robinson)*

1. NEXT MEETING DATES

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| Tuesday 7 September 2021 | 10:30 – 16:00 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 19 October 2021 | 10:30 - 15:30 | Webconference (tbc) |
| Tuesday 23 November 2021 | 10:30 – 16:00 | Brussels (A.I.S.E.) |

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