### UKCPI Advocacy, Regulatory & Communications Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 15 July 2020

By Video Conference

Present: Mr P Woodhead - Selden Research (in the Chair)

 Ms A Barker - S C Johnson

Ms C Berto - Henkel

Ms G Bilska-Pietrasiak - Star Brands

Mr M Cooper - PZ Cussons

Ms R Eckley - Unilever UK

Mrs H Fenwick - Unilever UK

 Mr R Furse - RB

 Mr T James - ACDOPRO

 Ms K Josefacka - Coventry Chemicals

 Ms N Katsouli - Procter & Gamble

 Mr K Kostanopoulus - Diversey

 Mr R Maharaj - Ecolab

 Mr S McKay - Greyland Limited

 Mr Y Parulekar - Kuraray

 Mr J Pickup - Consultant

Secretariat: Mr P Malpass - UKCPI

 Ms C Salter - UKCPI

 Mr S Stewart - UKCPI

Apologies: Mr B Anderson - NicePak International

 Mr J Gourbeault - RB

Mr A Hill - Robert McBride

Mr M Wood - Coventry Chemicals

Action List:

21/20 - **Mr Malpass** to respond to HSE

21/20 - **Committee Members** to provide examples of biocide product misuse

22/20 - **Mr Malpass** to include EU Exit reminder in communications

22/20 - **Mr Malpass** to circulate M Barnier letter

23/20 - **Mr Pickup** to circulate paper on Quats

24/20 - **Committee Members** to provide comments on Plastic Tax consultation

25/20 - **Mr Stewart** to revisit HSE website for post transition period advice

25/20 - **Mr Kostanopoulos/Ms Katsouli** to circulate HSA documents

26/20 - **Mssr Malpass/Woodhead** to arrange representation on CFA

18/20 **Competition Policy Statement**

Prior to the meeting commencing, Mr Woodhead read the Competition Policy Statement:

“UKCPI and UKCPI members shall adhere to UKCPI’s competition law policy and shall not share, directly or indirectly, commercially sensitive information including but not limited to pricing, terms and conditions of supply, business planning or marketing plans. Should the meeting discuss matters that fall outside of UKCPI's legal remit or contravene that policy; the Chairman will close the meeting”.

Ms Berto was welcomed to her first meeting and would be representing Henkel. It was noted that Mr Furse would now be representing RB.

19/20 **Minutes of Meeting 29 April 2020**

The minutes of the meeting were agreed to be an accurate record.

All actions were complete or covered in the agenda.

20/20 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

21/20 **COVID-19**

Fogging

Mr Malpass noted that Diversey had a clear position on fogging of people (that fogging should not be used on people) and that the HSE response to the concerns he had raised with them was advice that companies should comply with the regulations and that the systems should be safe for use in the work place.

Mr McKay added that it was not just the systems but the products being used and concerns around the lack of understanding of the products and a lack of efficacy data and Health & Safety. Mr Pickup added that a local pub had bought in fogging equipment but for use in the rooms not people. Mr Woodhead had seen a 200ml aerosol product claiming to be used for a whole room – equivalent to 1ml per square metre and would not be effective. Mr Kotsanopoulos agreed that it was playing on people’s willingness to accept claims at face value. Mr James added that that products were not being used in controlled conditions.

Mr Malpass felt that given the Committee’s ongoing concerns that the HSE response seems a bit lax and he would be willing to go back to them and suggest the need for stronger enforcement may be need.

**Action: Mr Malpass**

*Post meeting note: HSE website has been updated with comprehensive advice and guidance on the use of disinfecting technologies including fogging.*

To better reinforce the Committee’s concerns, Mr Malpass asked for any examples of “sharp” practices to be sent to him to be included in the response to HSE.

**Action: Committee Members**

Mr Pickup asked if Quats were being used in this way which Mr Woodhead confirmed, and noted a recent paper on the environment and health impacts of this group of substances.

*Mr Parulekar joined the meeting.*

Preparedness

There were no further issues to discuss at present.

22/20 **EU Exit**

Detergent Regulations SI

Mr Malpass raised the request from Defra regarding Members awareness of the proposed UK SI for Detergents Regulations. Only one reply had been seen to date and Mr Malpass asked if Members could look again at responding by send direct to Defra and copy in UKCPI. Simon Johnson had also asked Mr Malpass on the general mood of business to the EU Exit. Mr Furse felt companies were as prepared as can be and Mr James felt that because of COVID some exit aspects had been put on the back burner and perhaps Members would benefit from being issued with a reminder. Mr Malpass asked what this might look like and Mr James suggested a” countdown” and Mr Malpass agreed to work on it internally and see if something could be added to the current UKCPI communications.

**Action: Mr Malpass**

Mr Woodhead noted the Dave Bench had left HSE and the EU Exit team was now being headed up by Matt Penrose.

Letter to M Barnier

Mr Malpass noted that UKCPI and AISE had sent a letter to EU Chief Negotiator Michel Barnier. This had also been shared with UK officials and Mr Malpass agreed to circulate it to the Committee.

**Action: Mr Malpass**

Latest Developments

Ms Katsouli asked if the UK would implement Annex VII on CLP on harmonised reporting to poison centres and Mr Stewart replied that he thought the UK would continue with its current system.

Ms Katsouli asked if there was clarification on the process and timing of submitting a BPR dossier and Mr Stewart suggested that is could be submitted using the current process and have the UK as a concerned MS as there was currently ne mechanism to submit a dossier directly to the UK Competent Authority. Mr Furse added that HSE should contact the company if they can see that the authorisation is not going to be finished before the end of the transition period. Mr Woodhead suggested this would be suitable topic for a Regional Meeting Q&A session. Ms Barker added that it was not just new applications but that soon existing Active Substance and Product approvals will be up for renewal and this would add to the HSE workload. Mr Malpass agreed that UKCPI would continue to engage with HSE.

Mr Woodhead raise the issue of divergence now that the UK had technically left the EU and noted that we were already seeing possible examples – PCC reporting and the newly published REACH Anne on Safety Data Sheets. Mr Stewart added that the Detergents Regulations were currently being reviewed/update at EU level and Industry would want these reflected in the UK legislation. Mr Malpass agreed that UKCPI should continue to monitor EU developments and learn from AISE lobbying/positioning to try and minimise future developments. In the future Mr Malpass felt this could be a bigger part of UKCPI’s work plans and focus.

Mr Woodhead asked if the UK would bring in a programme similar to the newly launched EU4Health but no-one was able to give any insight.

23/20 **Advocacy**

Indoor Air Quality

Mr Malpass provided the background to the issues raised by Defra’s Clean Air Strategy (CAS) which includes actions for household products. A Work Group had been formed at the last Council meeting and had met (by video) on the 14 July and had agreed to review the following:

* Agree to an Industry Voluntary Scheme
* VOC content, in ranges, on-line but nothing on ack
* No to a traffic light system
* Report back to Defra in September

Mr Malpass noted that it would be a hard fight to move Defra off the traffic light scheme as the believe that it is a system that works e.g. on food labelling and paints.

Mr Woodhead recalled that Mr Pickup had mentioned earlier in the meeting a recent paper on the environmental and health impacts of Quats and asked if he could circulate it. Mr Pickup agreed to this and added that he would also raise it with AISE as he felt a more robust Industry position was required.

**Action: Mr Pickup**

24/20 **External Affairs**

Website

Ms Salter provided an update on the progress of the updating of the UKCPI website to a new platform. The work was with an Agency new to UKCPI and would in the whole be the same content but with a refreshed look. Ms Salter was hopeful that the new website would be live by the end of the year.

Packaging

Mr Stewart though that the Environment Bill would restart its Parliamentary process now and would still include scope for a Deposit Return Scheme, amendments/consistency to household collections and extended producer responsibility.

Additional Mr Stewart had circulated HMRC’s consultation document of a proposed “Plastics Tax” which had extended the response deadline until August. Mrs Fenwick asked if UKCPI would response to this consultation and Mr Malpass replied that it had been previously agreed that we would only monitor the issue but could submit information if there were points of difference (to the Incpen response) but this would need to come from Members. Mrs Fenwick raised a concern that the recycled content was per component and not by total in a product. Mr Furse agreed to this and had also raised the issue of Dangerous Goods packaging that has to go through a UN approval protocol including drop testing that would make it difficult to include recyclate. Mr Malpass asked that these and any other issues be submitted in writing to him and preferably with supporting evidence but also advised members to manage their expectations of achieving change.

**Action: Committee Members**

ClearCast Guidance

A Work Group had been agreed at the last Council meeting and its first meeting would take place on the 15 July.

25/20 **Regulatory Issues**

Biocidal Products

Mr Furse reported that he had no new issues to update at the time of the meeting. As the issue of BPR and EU Exit had been raised earlier in the meeting Mr Stewart agreed to revisit the advice on the HSE website to see if there was any clarification on the approach of HSE after the end of the transition period.

**Action: Mr Stewart**

Ms Katsouli provided an update on issues in the RoI and highlighted the following:

* Meeting in June with HAS
* Introduction of new phrases on-pack as part of the new submission form
* Reference to PCC phone number and Handle responsibly
* Industry had disagreed to this and the way it had been introduced and asked HSA to reconsider
* In future product labels would be approved as part of the submission process

Mr Kotsanopoulos was also aware of new submission forms and both he and Ms Katsouli agreed to share them with the Committee via Mr Stewart.

**Action: Mr Kotsanopoulos/Ms Katsouli**

CLP

Mr Stewart reported back on the latest meeting of the AISE CLP SG that had focused on the upcoming CARACAL meeting and highlighting the following:

* There will be further discussions on including/excluding propellent in aerosol classification
* 17th ATP will contain 2019 RAC opinions
* Improvements to the CLP inventory and difficulties as entries cannot be deleted
* Positive feedback from EU on liquid capsules but still some concerns so need to be vigilant
* Annex VIII new text and guidance tight timeline so may be further delay but would need pushed by Member States

UN GHS & TDG

Mr Stewart reported that the UN meetings had not taken place and although some papers had been circulated there were not that were felt to be relevant.

Detergent Regulations

Mr Stewart noted the Defra request on the UK SI above and the recent AISE WG meeting noting the following:

* Trying to align preservative labelling with BPR Treated Articles
* Overlap with medical data sheet and Annex VIII CLP
* Amend definition of ingredient
* Possible review of dosing information format
* Possible review of requirement to link to CosIng

Professional Cleaning & Hygiene Sector

Mr Woodhead reported back from the recent PCHS meeting highlighting the following discussions:

* Fogging/Misting as discussed above
* Occupational Asthma including discussions on IAQ and VOCs

Explosive Precursors

Mr Stewart had joined a conference call on 10 June hosted by the Home Office looking at the product usage of an extended list of substances. Mr Stewart thanked those companies that had provided feedback on this and this information has been shared with the HO. There will shortly be a new on-line portal for companies to submit information on suspicious transactions or losses.

26/20 **Any Other Business**

Chilled Foods Association

Mr Woodhead provided the background to the work carried out by the Food & Biocides Industry Group as part of the Chilled Food Association. The Committee agreed to Mr Woodhead’s offer to represent UKCPI on the group and Mr Malpass would assist in arranging this.

**Action: Mssr Malpass/Woodhead**

Regional Meeting 28 October

Mr Stewart reported that it had been agreed to cancel the Regional Meeting in September and that instead an open meeting combined with the ARC Committee would be held on 28 October. The ARC meeting would start earlier at 10am (with mostly pre-reads circulated); followed by 3 X 30 minutes presentations (20 minutes presentation plus 10 minutes Q&A from Zoom Chat); and a final 30 minutes open Q&A. As this was the first time the secretariat had held a meeting in this way and there may be some glitches/challenges. Mr James asked about recording the meeting, but Mr Stewart was unsure of this as the meetings are usually held under Chatham House rules.

27/20 **Date/Location of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be a joint ARC Committee and Regional Meeting held on 28 October 2020 **commencing at 10:00 am** by video conference.