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| national associations commitee meeting 03/2022 | |
| Minutes | Conference call Wednesday 23 March 2022 09:00-15:00 (Break 12:15 -13:15) CET |

Participants :

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| By phone  Mr Giuseppe ABELLO, Assocasa  Mr Bernard CLOETTA, SKW  Ms Isabel COELHO  Ms Ana-Maria COURAS, A.I.S.D.P.L.  Ms Virginie d’ENFERT, Afise  Ms Pilar ESPINA, Adelma  Ms Helle FABIANSEN, KoHB  Mr Christian GRÜNDLING, FCIO  Mr Olof HOLMER, KOHF  Ms Inara JONISKIENE, Likochema  Ms Sari KARJOMAA, KH (Chair)  Mr Thomas KEISER, I.K.W.  Mr Philip MALPASS, U.K.C.P.I.  Ms Anna MELVAS, K.T.F.  Mr Istvan MURANY, Kozmos  Ms Anna OBORSKA, P.A.C.D.I.  Ms Tulin OZKOCA, KTSD  Ms Jelena PEJCINOVIC, Kozmodet  Ms Mihaela RABU, Rucodem  Mr Finn RASMUSSEN, V.L.F.  Mr Thomas RAUCH, I.H.O.  Mr Hans RAZENBERG, N.V.Z.(vice chair)  Mr Roman STERBAK, S.Z.Z.V.  Ms Françoise VAN TIGGELEN, Detic | From A.I.S.E. (by phone):  Ms Cindy CHHUON  Mr Luca CONTI  Ms Elodie CAZELLE  Mr Dave HEMINGWAY  Mr Sascha NISSEN  Ms Aisling O’KANE  Ms Jan ROBINSON  Ms Giulia SEBASTIO  Ms Amelie WEBER  Apologies  Ms Susanne ZÄNKER |

1. Reminder on competition policy

The rules of the Competition law were reminded, and all agreed to adhere.

1. Welcome and approval of agenda

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees to the web-conference. The agenda was approved after a small reorganisation to accommodate A.IS.E. staff attending external meetings.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & REVIEW OF ACTIONS OF LAST MEETINGs ([20 jan](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14980) & [9 feb](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14973) 2022)

The minutes were approved, and actions from previous meetings have been completed or included in the agenda.

1. short Debrief from the joint MC/ NAC discussion on the [work plan](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15889)

The meeting held a short discussion following the joint MC-NAC meeting the previous day and made some suggestions to the working principles that had been discussed at the start of the meeting. The discussion related to prioritisation and to the role of A.I.S.E. and national associations in member support.

It was agreed that D.Hemingway would update the principles and create a slide deck that could be sent to the MC for approval and then distributed to all A.I.S.E. groups.  
***ACTION:   
- Create slide deck on 'Principles and working methods' for distribution to MC for approval (D.Hemingway)***

1. GOVERNANCE
   1. **General Assembly:**
      1. Membership fees 2023 (D. Hemingway / L. Conti)

Discussions on a potential increase of membership fees for 2023 and following years are ongoing. NAC members mentioned that further discussion should also consider the current situation in Ukraine and how the sector has been impacted. In particular, companies in some countries are expected to have negative market consequences, whereas in general costs of energy, raw materials and packaging are increasing. The topic of the potential raise of membership fees will be discussed during the next Board meeting on 28 April, including the new political and economic scenarios.

* + 1. Candidate for Board Vice-Chairperson from the NAC *(L.Conti)*

During the Annual General Assembly in June, the positions in the Board have to be renewed. The NAC will nominate its representative as Board Vice-Chairperson. Following the nomination in the Cluster Representatives (see point below), the NAC will nominate the Board Vice-Chairperson from the NAC for a 2-year mandate. NAC members in the Clusters will be asked to express interest in case they want to take the position. Final decision will be taken ahead of the GA; an ad hoc call can be organised in the next months if needed.

* + 1. Confirmation of Cluster representatives *(L.Conti)*

As for the point above, the NAC Cluster representatives in the Board have to be elected. Current cluster representatives are asked if they intend to cover the role for another mandate and other NAC members can express interest. Feedback from clusters has to be communicated to the Secretariat by 8 April.

* + 1. 2022 check: Corporate Members membership at national level  *(L.Conti)*

Ahead of the General Assembly, A.I.S.E. Secretariat - with the support of NAC and Corporate members - will assess the status of national membership of A.I.S.E. Corporate members. NAC members will be asked to check how many A.I.S.E. Corporate members are members of their national association.

* + 1. Exchange on potential location of the GA in 2023 *(All)*

Members intially expressed an interest in organising the 2023 GA in Brussels. The Secretariat will ask all members to express interest in hosting the GA 2023 for feedback in the next few weeks. If no member expresses interest, the 2023 GA will take place in Brussels on the week of 12 or 19 June.

Related to the GA organisation, NAC asked whether the 2022 GA can be organised in a hybrid mode so that Members not able to attend physically can join online. More information will be shared in due course.

1. EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL (S.Nissen, D.Hemingway, J.Robinson)
   1. Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS)

The NAC was updated on the status of the key initiatives under the CSS (refer to slides).   
NAC members expressed concern that Cefic’s ‘softer’ advocacy approach to the CSS, with a focus on the transition pathway (see 6.3), does not serve the needs of downstream user sectors. The Secretariat confirmed that A.I.S.E. is not relying on Cefic or following their lead and is aligning only in certain areas where we have common views, such as on professional uses. A.I.S.E. will have its own voice and focus on collaboration within DUCC to promote the narrative of DU sectors.

In this context A.I.S.E.’s economic analysis by Ricardo will be used to support our agenda, not to drive it, and a low-key publication is planned (unlike Cefic’s proactive press release and paid for articles). For example, in the short term there is a targeted opportunity to use the report to influence the Commission’s impact assessment on the Generic Risk Approach. It was confirmed that the Ricardo report will be shared with the membership once finalised.

* 1. **Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP):** Substantiating Green Claims (S.Nissen)

The NAC was updated on SSG’s detailed proposal for staffing and budget which will be presented for approval at the interim Board call on 1 April (see slide deck). The NAC members appreciated the update, expressing support. The following points were raised, which will be brought to the SSG for consideration when finalising the proposal:

* Start stakeholder (external + internal (ensuring that smaller companies continue to use the Charter) engagement/consultation already before starting with concrete execution of workstream, i.e. test ideas (and include additional budget needs)
* Funding: How will it be funded
  + How funded? Additional? Which A.I.S.E. members to contribute? (Board to decide)
  + Idea: look into new ways of funding, e.g. via consortium (involving organisations, which are not direct A.I.S.E. members)
  + How budget be split over the next two years? Half/Half?
* Some discussion on Ecoscore calculation (ok for carbon footprint calculation)
  + Challenge

- Single score is not realistic, and consumers do not want or understand it

- Very complex to handle, e.g. big potential for changes with impact categories/calculation models/data

* + Pros

- COM is driving it, and we should meet expectations

- Demonstration to move beyond carbon

* + Test with stakeholders at beginning of the process (see above)

Monitor EU Ecolabel developments closely; local authorities seem to prefer Ecolabel type 1 schemes (also in context of GPP).  
***ACTION:   
- Finalise the proposal for the interim Board meeting on 1 April 2022 (SSG)***

* 1. **Other topics**: **Transition Pathway for the Chemical Industry** (D. Hemingway/G.Sebastio)

A.I.S.E. has been working with DUCC and its members, most notably IFRA, to ensure that a strong consolidated voice for the Downstream Users was presented to the Commission and other Stakeholders.

1. Key topics for discussion
   1. **Biocides** *(E. Cazelle)*

An important milestone has been achieved with the recent publication of the A.I.S.E. & Biocides for Europe report and related fact sheets on the implementation of the BPR. The two associations have presented at the last Biocides CA meeting the key findings and recommendations from the project. A short debrief from the discussion was provided ([refer to the slides](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15758)).

An update was also provided about the development of an A.I.S.E. paper on the borderline between disinfectants and cleaning products (refer to the slides). The NAC was invited to share (in written) any new developments at local level.

* 1. **Potential new PREP initiative on all-purpose cleaners** (S.Nissen)

The NAC was informed that the PREPs WG is stuck with the preparation of new compaction projects due to non-unanimous agreement for identified potential product categories. The reasons are technical, and the PREPs WG is now proposing an alternative route vs the one followed in the past, i.e. moving forward based on majority decision in the WG, and consulting the industry network in addition (see slide deck). There was some discussion, and whereas some NAC members agreed to the proposed approach, supporting a qualified majority vote in the WG striving for the biggest possible majority (80%+), it was finally agreed to not be able to provide any recommendation on this matter. After a legal check, the Board will be informed accordingly.

* 1. **Detergent Regulation** (G.Sebastio)

The NAC received an update on the key timelines for the Revision of the Detergent Regulation, and actions being taken by A.I.S.E. to reply to the targeted and public consultations.

Two key areas that still require discussion are:

1. **Microbial Cleaning Product Guidance:** However, following discussion with the MC on 22 March, the following conclusions were made:

* Microbial cleaning products are an emerging category, and these ingredients need to be used in the future for innovation of the sector
* A.I.S.E. to summarise the work done on the guidance in two pages – with an explanation of the safety assessment
* Open to the labelling of these ingredients but need to understand the best way to do this in a consumer-friendly way (also consider possibility of an INCI name for these ingredients)

1. **Restriction on P based compounds**

* As a first position, A.I.S.E. to defend voluntary reduction in use of P, as can be seen from recent years. The sector is a low contributor to P release.
* Voluntary measures from industry are more appropriate solutions. In a second stage, defend critical uses outlined above.
* In addition, the MC advised that A.I.S.E. needed to make clear that there is no significant use of P in hand-dishwash detergents.

**Targeted consultation**

A.I.S.E. is preparing its input to the targeted consultation. This was discussed in the Detergent WG on 18 March and will be finalised during the first week of April. However, A.I.S.E. understands that the member state deadline to comment on the targeted consultation is 4 April.

A.I.S.E. wishes to support the NAC in engaging with their member states, but the finalised input will only be defined after 4 April. It was clarified by the NAC that it will be difficult for member states to push back on the Commission deadline. Instead, some NAC members have been contacted with requests for input to the targeted consultation. The NAC will need to engage with authorities by 1 April.  
It was agreed that A.I.S.E. would share their draft input, highlighting what has been agreed and what still needs to be discussed.  
***ACTION*:   
*- Secretariat share the draft A.I.S.E. response to the targeted consultation highlighting what has been agreed and what still needs to be discussed for use by NAC members to engage authorities before 4 April*.**

1. COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS *(D. Hemingway)*
   1. **General Assembly & Annual Review**

NAC received a short verbal update on the general assembly, most notably the Members forum which will be dedicated to the legislative, communication and advocacy challenges for the industry over the coming months. They were informed that the Activity & Sustainability Review will be shorter and more targeted this year.

* 1. **70th Anniversary**

NAC were reminded that this year was A.I.S.E.’s 70th Anniversary and that this would be combined with the A.I.S.E. forum in December. NAC was asked to send any ideas and suggestions on how to commemorate this achievement to the secretariat.

1. ToUR DE TABLE AND EMERGING ISSUES AT NATIONAL LEVELS

**Belgium** (Françoise Van Tiggelen)

* DETIC signed the [Flemish authorities’ Green Deal “anders verpakt](https://ovam.vlaanderen.be/web/green-deal-anders-verpakt)” (packed differently) which aims at encouraging and supporting companies to sell their products in bulk or in reusable packaging, when relevant (these last two words are added by DETIC, as our condition for participating). First focus (most challenging) is on cosmetic products; however, as DETIC we are looking forward to having companies in all our sectors, including detergents, whether household or professional products.
* A lot of activities are currently related to packaging recyclability. Latest news came from EUNOMIA, COM’s consultant, which is aiming at having a “Negative list” of packaging. Packaging corresponding to this list should get, according to them, a kind of “deterrent green dot tariff”. This topic of “hindering packaging” is under discussion with the authorities in BE, since 2019. DETIC is working on it with all sectors involved in HH products (food and retailers, in first instance) and the BE HH Packaging EPR scheme, FOST Plus.

**Romania** (Mihaela Rabu)

Biocides: Ministry of Health notified to TRIS a draft to modify existing order on the national administrative approval of biocides, which contain a provision referring to limiting the capacities of biocidal products for population:

* for TP1 biocidal products, the maximum capacity is 1L and for TP2, TP3 and TP4 biocidal products, the maximum capacity is 10 L;
* for biocidal products of the main group 3: Pest control products: maximum capacity is 1 L for biocidal products in the form of liquid/emulsifiable concentrate or 500 g for biocidal products in the form of granules, powders, solids.”
* The draft also includes some other provisions e.g., maintain the testing of biocidal products for sanitary units every 3 years, imposing an accredited laboratory

The amendments provide no transition time to adapt to new requirements.

NAC colleagues are invited to contribute to the TRIS notification so that there is a harmonised approach at EU level with view to biocides.

**Netherlands** (Hans Razenberg)

* Guidelines for essential requirements for packaging are available (applicable also for cosmetics).

1. WRITTEN INFORMATION

Refer [to pre-readings](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15285)

**Update on Packaging** (A.Weber)  
**- Perforated sleeves  
- Review of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive**

1. Next Meeting DateS

Monday **13 June 2022**, 10:30-16:30, Webconference (GA A.I.S.E. on 14 June)

Thursday **15 September 2022**, 14:30 – 17:30, Madrid, Spain tbc in June

Friday **16 September 2022** (webinar + lunch) 10:30-12:30, Madrid, Spain tbc

Thursday **8 December 2022**, 09:00-12:00, Brussels (A.I.S.E)

1. ACTIONS SUMMARY

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| *Action points* | *Responsible person/group* | *Deadline* |
| Send back to Secretariat enquiries related to GA, in particular cluster representatives | NA directors | 8 April 2022 |
| Detergents Regulation: share the draft A.I.S.E. response to the targeted consultation | Secretariat | 25 March 2022 |
| Update principles slides circulate to MC for approval | D Hemingway | 8 April 2022 |
| CEAP: finalise the [proposal](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15886) for the Interim Board call | SSG | done |

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