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| Management committee meeting 09/2021 | |
| Minutes | Webex conference  23 November 2021  10:30-15:30 |

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| **Participants:**  *By phone:*  Giuseppe Abello, Assocasa  Ina Andreasen, RB  Giorgia De Berardinis, Colgate-Palmolive  Agnieska Bielach, ECOLAB  Bernd Glassl, IKW  Ad Jespers, Diversey (Chairman)  Gerard Luijkx, Unilever (Vice-Chair)  Joachim Noach, KoHB  Eleni Papadimitriou, PG  Felix Rustemeyer, Henkel  Rob Roggeband, P&G  Françoise van Tiggelen, Detic  Edward Whittle, SC Johnson  Apologies  Pilar Espina, Adelma  Marten Kops, N.V.Z.  Thomas Rauch, I.H.O  Hans Razenberg, NVZ  Walter Aulmann, Ecolab |  | *From A.I.S.E. (for their respective agenda topics):*  Elodie Cazelle  Majlinda Cobaj  Luca Conti  Dave Hemingway  Sascha Nissen  Jan Robinson  Giulia Sebastio  Valérie Séjourné  Amelie Weber  Apologies from A.I.S.E.  Susanne Zänker |

1. WELCOME AND REMINDER OF COMPETITION LAW

The Chair of the Management Committee, Ad Jespers, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants; he indicated that S. Zänker was unable to attend due to illness and was replaced by V. Séjourné, supported by the other colleagues in A.I.S.E.

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & REVIEW OF ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING (19 October 2021)

The minutes were approved; all actions are covered by the agenda of today.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved (the order of the topics was slightly modified for logistical reasons)

1. KEY TOPICS *(for discussion)*
   1. Lessons learned + next steps from the EP Outreach (D.Hemingway/L.Conti)

L. Conti presented the main aspects and lessons learned of the A.I.S.E. Political Outreach. In mid-November, A.I.S.E. organised a series of meetings with Members of the European Parliament. A.I.S.E. Secretariat and Members met more than 20 MEPs’ offices with the objective to introduce A.I.S.E. activities and policy priorities for this legislative mandate, as well to start establishing contacts with their Offices ahead of future collaboration. During the MC meeting, [a report of the key topic](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14585) discussed, areas of interest for MEPs and the current political landscape was provided.

As for the next steps over the course of 2022, A.I.S.E. intends to continue its outreach towards the EP as well as to start establishing the outreach to the Council (Member States / Council) with the support of NAC Members.

* 1. Biodegradation of Polymers: creation of an Industry Platform *(J. Robinson)*

The MC members discussed the [Terms of Reference](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14215) for the new Task Force that were shared as pre-reading. On the open question of hierarchical reporting, it was agreed that the TF should report to the REACH Implementation WG, although it is acknowledged that polymer (bio)degradability is not solely a REACH issue; the CSS/ZP SG and Advocacy SG should be included in the groups to be informed/consulted (along with others such as the Detergents Regulation WG, for which additional biodegradability requirements may figure in regulatory intentions).

It was noted that a reference to ‘financial contribution’ needed to be aligned to the actual wording of the relevant heading. A question was asked about legal considerations, and data sharing in particular; it was clarified that the task force would be working on methodologies and using agreed sets of (surrogate) materials, so no sharing of information on proprietary materials should be required.

G. Luijkx confirmed the support of Unilever for this work and that their nominated participant would be communicated in due course following internal discussion.

With the minor changes noted above, the MC approved the ToR and the initiation of the new task force.

***ACTION:  
- Secretariat to modify ToR and launch call for participants for the TF.***

* 1. Detergent Regulation Review
     1. **Update: Commission working Session 9 November** (G.Sebastio)

The MC was updated on the insights of A.I.S.E.’s working session with Commission which took place on 9November.

Feedback received:

* COM said they do not plan to place the Detergent Regulation in the NLF or repeal the regulation
* Timing for next steps is for the public consultation to be sent in December and the targeted consultations to take place in Dec 2021/Jan 2022.
* COM do not plan to consider CMRs and EDs in the Detergent Regulation. Acknowledged it is a REACH topic.
* It is important to note that as this was an informal meeting, therefore the viewpoints that were shared may change.
* On preservatives: Commission reacted positively to the A.I.S.E. proposal for preservative labelling. They suggested for AISE to present to member states at the Commission Detergent WG on 15 December. A.I.S.E. has engaged the NAC to reach out to member states for support
* Commission is very concerned and interested on the following topics:
  + How microbial cleaning products are regulated?
  + Phosphates
  + Safe use and sustainable use information/ labelling for PC&H – how is this communicated, overlaps with the safety data sheet
  + Biodegradability of non-surfactant ingredients
  + Data for the discrepancy between the DetReg medical data sheet and CLP Annex VIII requirements
  + Clarify dosage requirements for consumers

The MC was informed that for microbial cleaning products an informal subgroup on microbial cleaning products has been created and A.I.S.E. is aligning with HCPA/ACI on this topic.  
Other topics will be discussed at the next Detergent WG 29 November.

Some questions were raised:

* If EDs/CMRs will not be included in the Detergent Regulation, what will this mean for Detergents? It was explained that the discussions under REACH on General Risk Approach/Restriction/Authorisation etc. would be crucial to answer that question.
* The Detergent Regulation currently has ‘three’ topics on the table with the following aims:
  + Amendment of labelling of preservatives through delegated act: A.I.S.E. will present a proposal on 15 December. Commission is doing this through delegated act due to pressure from Member States and the very technical nature of the topic.
  + Fragrance labelling: the Cosmetics Regulation will extend the list of fragrance allergens and this will have an immediate impact on Detergents. Commission agreed to align the timelines for implementation for Detergents to those of Cosmetics via an FAQ. In parallel, there are discussions on digitalisation where A.I.S.E. will engage, with the aim that the Cosmetics Regulation list of fragrance allergens can be listed online.
  + All other topics are to be discussed under the revision of the Detergent Regulation.
  + **It was agreed that these three topics had to be visualised to help the Board.**
* For phosphates a lot of discussion was needed. This would be on the agenda of the Detergent WG.
* For Biodegradability of non-surfactant ingredients, the TF that will be created for biodegradability of polymers was raised. There is a connection with the safe and sustainable by design and biodegradability is part of the risk assessment of REACH. However, the discussion is regarding whether biodegradability criteria would need to be introduced in the Detergent Regulation for non-surfactant ingredients. This would take place over a long-time span of 10 years, and it would need to be clarified that for certain ingredient classes, like inorganics, it would not be possible to have biodegradability criteria. This point will be for discussion at the next Detergent WG.
  + 1. **Approval: Guidance/ factsheet on microbial products** (G.Sebastio/ E. Cazelle)

A.I.S.E. has become aware that clarification on the regulation for microbial cleaning products is of priority to Commission. There was a lot of discussion on this point.  
Authorities fear that microbial cleaning products are not safe. The safety aspect of these products is crucial. It was also stated there could be parallels with enzymes, and a situation like what occurred in the 80s for enzymes should be avoided. Having a similar initiative as what was done for enzymes – through an industry stewardship program - was considered positive.  
It was raised that the point of microbial cleaning products is of key relevance at national level.  
A.I.S.E. has just started a small subgroup to discuss this topic, with a call for experts having been made in the PC&H SG and Biocide WG. The type of expert input however may still need to be defined. Also, it was explained that due to resource and time constraints, starting a stewardship program may not be possible in the short term.  
The point was raised that including other companies, who also produce microbial ingredients, could be important – beyond A.I.S.E. members.  
Timing for next steps of the Detergent Regulation is for the public consultation to be sent in December and the targeted consultations to take place in Dec 2021/Jan 2022.

In addition, there are concerns that authorities (COM, MS) raise questions about the borderline between microbial detergents and biocidal products. On 16 November, a discussion took place in the Biocide WG to clarify some key points on this respect.   
**It was agreed that**:  
As any detergent, microbial cleaning products could be considered as biocidal products in some specific cases (and therefore fall both under the Detergent Reg. and the BPR) depending on:  
- Intention/claim(s):

* Purpose/intent to control harmful organisms (e.g., from the product’s presentation)
* Claim concerning the control of harmful organisms
* Visual communication: images, graphical representations, etc…
* Means: via packaging, advertising, Product Info Sheets, etc…

- Formulation – presence of active substance(s) allowed under the BPR intended to control microorganisms

- Mode of action – e.g., chemical, physical, mechanical (physical or mechanical action are excluded from BPR scope).

**The MC agreed to this.**

With regards to actions the following was agreed:

* In the short term, before the targeted consultations for the Detergent Regulation in December, the ad hoc subgroup on microbial cleaning products could produce a guidance to clarify i) how microbial cleaning products are regulated ii) what can be done to demonstrate their safety
* In the longer term, an industry stewardship program on this topic was considered important.
* The market is niche, but is growing – information on market data is needed
* At the moment the group would only contain A.I.S.E. members/NAC and not external companies.
* The MC would also assess internally if the experts that had been submitted were suitable for the objectives of the sub-group.
* The decisions made by the MC on this topic would need to be conveyed to the Board.
* More information would be provided following discussion in the ad hoc subgroup on microbial cleaning products.

***ACTION:  
- These decision points would be shared in a separate email (A.I.S.E. secretariat***

* 1. Biocides: in-can preservatives, BIT (E.Cazelle)

An update was provided with regard to BIT (refer to the slides):  
The RAC CLH WG recommended to classify BIT as Skin Sensitiser Cat. 1A, with SCL 360 ppm, which is subject to RAC approval at their plenary meeting on 22-26 November.

The work of the A.I.S.E. Sensitisation TF was acknowledged by the Management Committee - especially Petra Kern and Raphael Tremblay from P&G who respectively led the technical and advocacy work – since data submitted in the public consultation were critical to avoid a low SCL such as 15 ppm (which is currently the case for many isothiazolinones).

In addition, the BPC opinion has been adopted, approving BIT for PT6 (preservatives for products in storage). It includes a restriction similar to the one in CMIT/MIT approval, that BIT cannot be used in treated mixtures above the SCL. The A.I.S.E. PT6 TF will discuss in the coming weeks the BIT BPC opinion and next steps.

1. GREEN DEAL (S.Nissen, D.Hemingway, J.Robinson)
   1. Activities on the CEAP-Meeting with COM on A.I.S.E. technical proposal (S.Nissen)

The MC was informed on the preparation status of this this meeting, which is planned on 30 November with Emmanuele Maire, Head of unit DG ENV Sustainable Production, Products and Consumption, and her team.

The A.I.S.E. delegation, that is currently preparing the meeting and narrative with support from the ADV SG and SSG, will comprise of A.I.S.E.’s president Nadia Viva, Virginie D'Enfert (sustainability Board sponsor), Mark Stalmans (chair SSG), Gerard Luijkx (co-chair SSG) and Sascha Nissen. Objective of the meeting is to retrieve COM feedback via an open discussion to our technical proposal, which aims:

* to share the detergents and maintenance products industry’s vision and recommendations on CEAP to deliver on the EU Green Deal’s objectives, especially for initiatives related to the substantiation of green claims for our sector.
* to seek guidance from the European Commission on the appropriateness of developing sectorial approaches (based on robust science-based methodologies) to accurately address the diversity of features that must be communicated to consumers.
* to seek guidance from the European Commission on our proposal to integrate environmental footprint (EF) policy in our industry’s sustainability flagship initiative ‘Charter for Sustainable Cleaning’.
* to invite the European Commission to provide input on those activities as elaborated and help steer A.I.S.E.’s proposal in this regard.
  1. Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability: updates - High Level Roundtable, (J.Robinson)  
     impact assessment report, revisions of CLP and REACH

The MC members were updated on the current status of the key dossiers (see presentation slides). It was noted that the draft report on the impact assessment project (due by the end of November) would be discussed first in the CSS/Zero Pollution Steering Group and then in the MC, so no presentation of results is anticipated at the Board meeting on 8 December. Some top-line reflections *may* be shared for information.

The high number of supporting studies for the targeted revision of REACH was noted. The Commission plans to launch a webpage to enable tracking of all workstreams (for now a simple overview is available on the [DG ENV REACH site](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach_revision_chemical_strategy_en.htm)).  
It was noted that the huge workload on the Commission’s side has resulted in some delays. The EC work plan for 2022 includes a number of dossiers postponed from 2021.

1. GOVERNANCE
   1. Revision of the A.I.S.E. 2021 – 2022 work plan

The A.I.S.E. Team shared some updates on the A.I.S.E. Work Programme approved at the General Assembly. Progress made on a number of files was shared and much appreciated by members (e.g., input to CLP consultation, UFI campaign meeting with DG ENV regarding Charter, pilot on digitalisation etc – see specific slide); new topics that have been added since were mentioned (see elements in red in the [attached PPT](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14589) e.g., microbial products, vast number of consultations from Commission). The stress on resources for the team was highlighted at the Management Committee (cf long sick leaves, turnover of staff). For some projects, more clarity on needs will be better assessed once the strategy will have been further progressed (expected in a couple of months).

MC members acknowledged the work done to date; matching it with the Commission work programme makes sense. Board members’ guidance will be sought on the workplan and its priorities at their next meeting in December.

1. for information/ Questions only

[Refer to pre-readings](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14217)

* 1. A.I.S.E. Open Forum & Charter Symposium (8 December) (S.Nissen)

The final agenda of the programme including Commission speaker Hans Ingles was shared with the group; so far, about 180 persons are registered.

* 1. Update on A.I.S.E. corporate website (V.Séjourné)

In progress.

* 1. Update on the Alleged Dual Quality TF (L.Conti)

No further question was raised.

* 1. BPR assessment project (E.Cazelle)
  2. Enzyme sustainability factsheet with AMFEP, ACI, HCPA – (G.Sebastio)  
     global collaboration
  3. Update on the 2025 A.I.S.E. Strategy review (S.Zänker)

On hold for now.

* 1. ERASM: update from Steering Committee meeting 16 November (J. Robinson)

G. Luijkx indicated that ERASM plans to add a few more projects to address the CSS. These include proposals for: Mixture Assessment Factors, ED and surfactants, Bioaccumulation; these were proposed and more updates will be shared with A.IS.E once decision has been made by ERASM on those.

1. NEXT MEETING DATES

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| Tuesday 18 January 2022 | 10:30 – 15:30 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 22 February 2022 | 10:30-15:30 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 22 March 2022 (+ joint lunch with NAC) | 10:30 – 13:00 | Brussels (A.I.S.E.) – TBC end of Feb. |
| Tuesday 22 March ***(joint meeting with NAC)*** | 13:30-16:00 | Brussels (A.I.S.E.) |
| Tuesday 19 April 2022 | 10:30-15:30 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 17 May 2022 | 10:30 – 16:00 | Brussels |
| Tuesday 28 June 2022 | 10:30-15:30 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 6 September 2022 | 10:30 – 16:00 | Brussels |
| Tuesday 18 October 2022 | 10:30-15:30 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 22 November 2022 | 10:30 – 16:00 | Brussels (A.I.S.E.) |

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