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| Management committee meeting 01/2022 | |
| Minutes | Webex conference   Tuesday 18 January 2022  10:30-15:30 |

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| **Participants:**  *By phone:*  Giuseppe Abello, Assocasa  Ina Andreasen, RB  Sonia Benacquista, AFISE  Agniezka Bielach, ECOLAB  Ian Croft, McBride PLC  Giorgia De Berardinis, Colgate-Palmolive  Pilar Espina, Adelma  Bernd Glassl, IKW  Ad Jespers, Diversey (Chairman)  Marten Kops, N.V.Z.  Gerard Luijkx, Unilever (Vice-Chair)  Eleni Papadimitriou, PG *(partly)*  Thomas Rauch, I.H.O  Felix Rustemeyer, Henkel  Rob Roggeband, P&G  Françoise van Tiggelen, Detic  Edward Whittle, SC Johnson |  | *From A.I.S.E. (for their respective agenda topics):*  Elodie Cazelle  Majlinda Cobaj  Dave Hemingway  Sascha Nissen  Jan Robinson  Giulia Sebastio  Amelie Weber  Susanne Zänker |

1. WELCOME AND REMINDER OF COMPETITION LAW

The Chair of the Management Committee, Ad Jespers, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The rules of the Competition Law were reminded, and all agreed to adhere.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & REVIEW OF ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING (23 Nov. 2021)

The minutes were approved; all actions are covered by today’s agenda.

1. Approval of the agenda

The [agenda](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14689) was approved (in its revised version as sent with pre-readings).

1. KEY TOPICS *(for discussion)*
   1. General revision of the Detergents Regulation High level update (G.Sebastio)
      1. **Risk of a ban on phosphorus-based compounds in professional and industrial applications**              (A. O’Kane)

The MC was updated on the work underway since the working session between A.I.S.E. and the Commission on 9.11.21 on the DeterReg review, at which the Commission asked for more information on the use of phosphorus in professional cleaning products. A.I.S.E. set up an ad hoc working group to answer the COM’s request for information on the current P market, economically viable alternatives and critical uses. The group distributed a survey to the membership on 14.12.21 - the deadline has been extended 21.01.22. Feedback will then be analysed and a response prepared to share with the COM with the help of the WG. Today, 96 companies have provided input, which is very positive, with substantial comments to illustrate the consequences of restrictions, and several proposals for limitations that would be manageable/acceptable. The market share that the survey represents will be clearer once all feedback is considered.

* On the consequences of restructuring P, the need for reformulation and higher costs come out as the two biggest issues facing our sector, specifically for phosphoric acid and HEDP.
* On the consequences of replacing P with alternatives, there is not only an economic impact (ie higher cost), but also implications for sustainability (eg need for higher dosage) with certain alternatives
* On the question whether our sector could adhere to the limits proposed by the Norwegian authorities, the responses are clear that 5/6 limits are too low, and 3 of these particularly unacceptable for us – 0.2% for liquid cleaning agents and washing up liquids, 2.5% for cleaning agents in powder form, and 2.5% for special cleaning of milk production and other industries. Numerous comments will enable us to build a good narrative to defend our position.

Efforts to get support from other industries for our position are being considered: Thomas Rauch has been in touch with a German WWTP who have said that the replacement of inorganic (P) with organic alternatives will cause issues for waste water treatment; Jan Robinson mentioned the European federation is EurEau.

Giuseppe Abello pointed out that there are already restrictions on P use in Italy, and this may mean we have less responses from Assocasa members.   
***ACTION:   
- AOK to follow up with G.Abello (DONE).***

Rob Roggeband pointed out the need for caution not to describe other ingredients that are alternatives to P in a negative way.

Aside from the P restriction, A.I.S.E. has been working on other topics to prepare for the Detergent Regulation revision consultation. The following additional points were raised:

***Key timings:***

* 15 December – COM Detergent WG
* COM has identified key issues to assess in the revision of the Detergent Regulation
* Consultation expected – February (?) to collect data to quantify the issues
* Following this, Commission will assess policy options to correct the identified problems.
* Another meeting of the Detergent WG will take place in 1ST HALF 2022/ Q2 2022
  + 1. **Refill and bulk sale**

A.I.S.E. is working to revamp the guidance. There were some discrepancies in positions especially on the definition of bulk sales, and responsibilities of stakeholders. Following two rounds of comments, a new proposal is made that also aligns the definition of bulk sale to the CLP bulk sales discussions at CARACAL.

On 21 January between 10:00 - 11:30 – there will be one last opportunity for input. Secretariat stressed the importance of finalizing the guidance, and asked MC to ensure there is adequate representation at the CLP WG meeting to finalize this work.

If no consensus can be achieved on 21 January, then this will go back to the MC. If there is consensus, the guidance will be moved forward with only written comments.

* + 1. **Microbial Cleaning Products:**

A.I.S.E. is working on guidance on this point in a subgroup of experts and is also aligning with the microbial cleaning product TF within the American Cleaning Institute (ACI) on this topic. Primary focus is to address safety of these product.  
Separate discussion on how this fits in the overall Detergent Regulation strategy - to take place at the Advocacy SG meeting 26th January

* + 1. **Labelling of fragrance allergens:**

The proposal of the Cosmetics Regulation to expand the fragrance allergen list is ongoing and will have a direct impact on Detergents. Commission has confirmed they will align to **the timing** for implementation of the Cosmetics Regulation. ***This means, once the amendment to the Cosmetics Regulation enters into force, the timing will be: 3 years for placing on the market and 5 years for product withdrawal.*** A.I.S.E. is following this topic closely, while in parallel work is ongoing for digitalisation.

* + 1. **Labelling of preservatives:**

A quick update was given on the preservatives. Member States have until 28 February to comment to the A.I.S.E. proposal and the A.I.S.E. Detergent WG is preparing comments and will ask for support of the NAC on this topic (25 January).

It was also shared that as part of the work on digitalisation, A.I.S.E. is organising an exchange with IVDK (Informationsbund Dermatologischer Kliniken) to present our work on labelling. As part of this A.I.S.E. will share the preservative labelling proposal and ask IVDK to comment with regards to how it is protective of consumer health.  
***ACTION  
- Sensitization TF is asked by MC to be also involved in this work.***

* 1. Objectives and lack of resources of the Irritancy TF (C.Chhuon)

The Irritancy TF has seen a decline in engagement over the recent years and the Chair role is currently vacant with no replacement available. The situation was described at the CLP WG meeting in Nov. 2021, before bringing it to the attention of the Management Committee.   
The Management Committee recommended, the Irritancy TF to evolve to a Panel of Experts, with the current Terms of Reference to be updated. The Board will be informed in March.   
*ACTION :   
- ToR to be updated and circulated to the Management Committee for endorsement.*

* 1. IFRA proposal to join Global Emerging Policy Network – see [HERE](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14676) (S.Zänker)

The MC agreed that for A.I.S.E. joining the Global IFRA Network is not seen a priority mainly due to focus of attention being on EU policy developments and also due to lack of internal resources.

1. EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL (S.Nissen, D.Hemingway, J.Robinson)
   1. Activities on CEAP - Debriefing from meeting with COM DG ENV on A.I.S.E. technical proposal Charter/PEF and points for action

Objective of the meeting on 30 November 2021 with Emmanuele Maire, Head of unit DG ENV Sustainable Production, Products and Consumption, and her team was to retrieve Commission feedback via an open discussion to our technical proposal, i.e., to develop together a successful cleaning and maintenance industry scheme by introducing PEF criteria into the A.I.S.E. Charter.

**Main learnings** (see presentation for further details)

* Commission did not say ‘NO’ to our proposal: BUT they do not know / are not fully convinced on how to react at this moment of time to a hybrid Charter/PEF
* Continued struggle of Commission to finalise the legal proposal of ‘Green claim substantiation’ package, which is now expected for March 2022
* The full deployment of this initiative is expected to take several years
* Complex situation with member states (e.g., France, which is well progressed with their own laws on circular economy and climate action)
* “Governance” seems to be a new idea (governance/helping the market operators at EU and national level to implement EF-based legislation)
* A.I.S.E. is on right track with the current Charter 2020+ and the planned technical revisions as explained in the technical proposal and to take advantage of the upcoming legislative proposal; however, further alignment will be needed.

Following up the meeting, the December Board had agreed to take further actions to the points, which were raised by the Commission. Those focus on consumer faced product comparison/ differentiation, full life-cycle approach, and on ingredients’ assessment (going beyond risk-based; continued evaluation of the USEtox method). During its next meeting on 19 Jan, the SSG will start to adjust workplans on initiated and potential new technical workstreams and identify help needed, so first thoughts can be shared with the Feb Board. In parallel, the Advocacy Steering Group is preparing a full outreach strategy plan, incl. timelines, identify allies, timing, and opportunities to elevate political outreach.  
*ACTIONS:  
- Adjust work plan on technical work streams (SSG)  
- Prepare outreach strategy plan (ADV SG)*

In this context, B Glassl raised the question, whether green claim substantiation will become mandatory. S Nissen referred to the expected timing of the publication of the legislative proposal in March, recalling that COM had referred in their roadmap to several options which are under consideration, covering both, mandatory as well as voluntary action. However, from recent communication and meetings with COM we see that COM is pushing for science/LCA-based substantiation of green claims. It was further highlighted to pay also attention to local activities, referring e.g. to the Swedish example, where retailers are requesting green claims (in terms of the Nordic Swan) for products on shelves.

* 1. Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability – updates/debriefing on:
     1. **High Level Roundtable - Sherpas meeting 14 January**

The outcomes of the Sherpas meeting and timeline for next steps were presented (see [slides](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/group/8/file/14766)). The Management Committee supported ‘downsizing’ A.I.S.E.’s effort on the joint report on Research & Innovation/Safe & Sustainable by Design, concentrating on general principles for an innovation-friendly environment and leaving it to Cefic and others to make more specific recommendations.

* + 1. **Economic analysis of impact on the detergents industry**

The draft report is in the process of finalisation, and an advocacy and communication plan is being devised. Downstream user messaging will be very important for the generic approach to risk management in particular, and this will be discussed in the CSS/ZP SG. A.I.S.E. is also in regular contact with IFRA and Cosmetics Europe to coordinate.

The consultation for the MAF report will open in early February, and MC members were asked to ensure their colleagues would be prepared to respond. The questionnaire, and hence the skills/resources required, will be similar to those for the previous (Phase 1) consultation.

* + 1. **Revisions of REACH and CLP**

It was noted that the CSS/ZP SG will discuss prioritisation of the various REACH revision workstreams at its meeting on 21 January. It was queried whether the revision of CLP could pose a threat to DetNet: bridging principles had been mentioned in early presentations by the Commission and may be addressed under the general area of self-classification. J. Robinson will participate in an interview of DUCC by the consultant RPA on 31 January and will be vigilant for this arising.

1. GOVERNANCE
   1. Board discussion and A.I.S.E. 2022 Work Plan (S.Zänker)

The Board in December – after the last MC meeting in November- reiterated its call for being more focussed and more mindful with priorities. S. Zänker reminded, that the work plan as set requires close to 15 FTE, and currently only 11 FTE are available. Even if the situation will improve over the coming weeks, it needs to be kept in mind that still 2 vacancies are to be filled, and that on-boarding for new staff members takes time. It is hoped that by summer the team is again complete. The restructuring of the Communication & Public Affairs Department has been undertaken following the Board call to be more active at the political level with the aim to enhance the advocacy for the sector’s business needs, in relation to the Commission’s Green Deal (see also mail by S. Zänker dated 17.1.2022, explaining the changes).

The key priority for the next MC will be to discuss a first proposal on a revisited work plan, its principles and processes. Working groups, Steering Groups and Committees (NAC) are in process to discuss and revise already their relevant topics and priorities.   
*ACTION:  
- Put work plan revision as a key topic on the February MC agenda for discussion (A.I.S.E. secretariat)*

1. for information/ Questions only

[Refer to pre-readings](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14700)

* 1. Advocacy (D.Hemingway)
     1. Advocacy SG Working Methods
     2. Member State/NAC Outreach
  2. A.I.S.E. Forum 2021/Charter Symposium (S.Nissen)

No question was raised in addition to the pre-reading.

* 1. Joint position on EU harmonised consumer instructions (A.Weber)  
     No question was raised in addition to the pre-reading.
  2. Biocides (E.Cazelle)

In addition to the pre-reads, the following question was raised:

The question about Ecolabel for Biocides was brought up and the possibility for A.I.S.E. to further explore the interest of members, advocacy possibilities and the likelihood of success. It was mentioned in that context that a revision of the BPR may be initiated in 2025, which could be an opportunity to explore for a change of the current regulation to allow for a biocide the possibility to apply for an environmental label, which is currently not possible. It was also reminded that a Charter product logo is not possible for a Biocidal Product.   
The MC assessed that it would make sense to run a landscape assessment on the interest and the likelihood of success for an advocacy that would allow for a biocidal products to apply for an ecolabel. As the Ecolabel TF is no longer existing it was suggested to have preliminary discussion at the Biocides WG, and the SSG, and in addition due to high relevance at the PC&H SG as well.   
*ACTION:  
- Assess the interest of members, possibilities, likelihood of success, routes and efforts needed to run an advocacy outreach for biocidal products and ecolabel permission. (Biocides WG, SSG, PC&H SG)  
- Report back to one of the next MCs**- Post-scriptum:* A legal opinion was prepared in 2014 by Ashurst on “hazard-based ingredients” in the context of the Charter logo and referring also to the Ecolabel flower. The [full document](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14879) concludes by stating: *“The ASP logo may however be viewed as inconsistent with the labelling provisions of the Biocides Regulation to the extent that the latter widely prohibits any type of "eco" labelling for biocides.”*

* 1. Polymer Biodegradation TF (J. Robinson)

No question was raised subsequent to the pre-reading.

* 1. Enzymes (Phil Davison)
     1. A.I.S.E./ACI/HCPA collaboration on creating global enzyme safe handling guidance
     2. Enzyme Working Group: update

1. NEXT MEETING DATES

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| 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 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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