|  |
| --- |
| Management committee meeting 02/2022 |
| Minutes | Webex conference  Tuesday 22 February 202210:30-15:30  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Participants:** *By phone:*Giuseppe Abello, AssocasaIna Andreasen, RBSonia Benacquista, AFISEAgniezka Bielach, ECOLABGiorgia De Berardinis, Colgate-PalmolivePilar Espina, Adelma *(partly)*Bernd Glassl, IKWAd Jespers, Diversey (Chairman)Marten Kops, N.V.Z.Gerard Luijkx, Unilever (Vice-Chair)Istvan Muranyi, KozmosEleni Papadimitriou, PG Thomas Rauch, I.H.OFelix Rustemeyer, Henkel  Rob Roggeband, P&G Françoise van Tiggelen, Detic *(a.m. only)*Edward Whittle, SC Johnson |  | *From A.I.S.E. (for their respective agenda topics):*Elodie Cazelle Luca ContiDave HemingwayBahar KoyuncuSascha NissenAisling O’Kane Giulia Sebastio Amelie WeberSusanne Zänker*Apologies:* Jan Robinson |

1. WELCOME AND competition law REMINDER

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all participants, in particular the new A.I.S.E. scientific and regulatory project manager, Bahar Koyuncu. She will be responsible for polymer biodegradation, safe and sustainable by design, biobased materials, etc. and will be reporting to J. Robinson and S. Nissen.

Members were reminded of the competition law rules and all agreed to adhere to them.

1. APPROVAL OF [MINUTES](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/14881) & REVIEW OF ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING (18 jaN 22)

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved with actions completed or covered through the agenda.

1. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with the following additional topics:

- [EPPA](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/chemicals/european-partnership-alternative-approaches-animal-testing_en#:~:text=The%20European%20Partnership%20for%20Alternative%20Approaches%20to%20Animal%20Testing%20(EPAA,(the%20'3R%20principle').): R. Roggeband reported on the activities of the EPAA Partners Forum and that the next meeting will be face-to-face in Brussels on the 6 May. The theme will be CSS related and this could be an opportunity to incorporate exposure considerations for designing test programs to address human safety. As agreed before Covid extended all timelines, Raphael Trembley(P&G) will represent A.I.S.E., and support is required from A.I.S.E. for his presentation. See [draft programme](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15098).
***ACTION:
- Provide feedback to A.I.S.E. about the presentation content for the EPAA Partners Forum (MC, CSS SG)***

- Commission Chemicals Transition Pathway Project (added as item 5.4)

- Microplastics: more information in addition to the pre-reads will be provided under 7.2.

1. Update from the Board meeting on 10 February 2022 (S.Zänker)

The main topics at the last Board meeting were related to CSS, CEAP and governance. As the first two items will be covered under point 6, only an update on the discussion on the financial and human resources was provided. See [Board meeting minutes](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15099).

For the financial aspects, membership fees were discussed in the framework of available resources at the end of 2021. In view of the situation, the forecasted increase of the membership fees will be more moderate, and a revised proposal will be tabled at the April Board meeting. On the HR situation, on average 2 vacancies were empty over the last 4 years, compounding already stretched resources. In view of the unprecedent political environment with a revision of 3 major regulation relevant for our sector, the workload will even further increase, hence the Board call to focus on priorities. See agenda item 5.1.

1. KEY TOPICS *(for discussion)*
	1. Discussion on A.I.S.E. Workplan and Priorities setting (S.Zänker)

Building on the comments from the Board and the role of the MC, to propose activities for the work plan, to prioritise and to execute the work plan, the discussion on some principles was opened. The MC was invited to provide comments to principles on the way the Secretariat is handling topics/activities and to receive feedback on their expectations. The following aspects were discussed, covering guidance for efficient work management for both members and the Secretariat:

- “Monitoring”: While qualifying that A.I.S.E. work to monitoring relevant topics and to share this information is very important, all understood that this needs to be undertaken in a more mindful less time-consuming way. Sharing via e-mail relevant information to relevant groups could be a first step with those members raising issues involved in assessing the importance and bringing the topic to the attention of the relevant WG/SG for discussion and potential further action.

- “Answering questions from members”: in view of the numerous questions from members to the A.I.S.E. staff (e.g., interpretation of a specific article of legal text), it was advised to ask the member to bring the question to the relevant working group/ task force or National Association, and to address it at that level. This will involve other members to finding an answer and allow for a written record in the minutes for potentially later use for the benefit of all members.

- New topics: as currently done, new topic/ proposal to be assessed in the relevant working group on how to best address it, the number of interested companies (min 3-5), keeping in mind alliances or other associations taking the lead.

- Members’ support: it was suggested to seek help from the membership for “holding the pen” for some activities, such as drafting position papers, leading on topics, etc.

- MC Meeting agenda: likewise in the Board, it was suggested to structure the MC agenda that only topics for discussion and decisions should be brought up. This will avoid repetition of presentations in different groups.

- Participation in WG/TF: if the number of participants in a WG/ TF is shrinking and/ or repeated calls for setting dates and participation is needed, the situation should be signalled to the MC for a decision about continuing the work and the group.

Following this discuss and the comments provided by the NAC, the work plan 2022-2023 will be prepared for the MC/ NAC joint session on 22 March.
*ACTION:
- Prepare draft A.I.S.E. 2022-2023 work plan by beginning of March for input by the members prior to the joint MC/NAC meeting (A.I.S.E. Team)*

* 1. Biocides (E.Cazelle)

The MC endorsed the proposal from the A.I.S.E. Biocides WG to develop an A.I.S.E. paper on the topic of borderline cases disinfectants versus cleaning products (for details of the proposal refer to the slides). The MC recommended the following:

* Considering the discussions on the A.I.S.E. work plan, limited resources shall be spent on this topic
* The A.I.S.E. paper shall be a very short, high-level document (i.e. do not enter the details), and shall not include details on claims
* Since the paper will be a high-level document, it could be considered sharing it externally.

An update was provided on the BPR assessment project and in-can preservatives (refer to the slides).

* 1. Detergent Regulation (G. Sebastio)

Members received an update on the Detergent Regulation timelines and an overview of recent A.I.S.E. activity (see slides).

As part of the discussion, the MC asked for combination effects to be discussed under the Detergent Regulation, as there is concern that the Commission wishes to address this under REACH as well as under sectoral legislation.

On carry-over preservatives, the MC were informed that Germany fundamentally disagreed with the A.I.S.E. proposal and there is a fear amongst some member states that the industry is trying to withhold or hide information. A.I.S.E. is now exploring how these concerns can be addressed.

A.I.S.E. is seeking a meeting with the Commission to share the data being collected and have a technical exchange between March/April (i.e. the period of the targeted consultation). The Commission has expressed interest in our input on the annexes on the Detergent Regulation and have accepted A.I.S.E.’s invitation to visit a detergent factory.

* 1. Commission’s project on Chemicals Transition Pathway *(S.Zänker)*

The MC was informed about the recent Commission workshop addressing the policy pathway for the chemical industry transition (see below and the mail sent by SZ on 22 Feb). The workshop was confusing and was followed up by a public survey with a deadline of 10 days. The Commission intents to draft their plan within 2 months using stakeholder input. The MC was asked about the advice on how to prioritise this topic. While all agreed that the topic is important, it was understood that a proper membership consultation is impossible. The MC decided that A.I.S.E. should focus on the most relevant building blocks using short high-level messaging and referring to existing A.I.S.E responses (e.g., REACH, CLP). In parallel, an e-mail should be sent to DG GROW, addressing more general points on the consultation process, i.e., confusing questions, timelines, next steps, etc. The rational is to keep the door with DG Grow open for further dialogue by posting an official reply on the topic.



*ACTIONS:*

*- Share with MC a draft reply asap (DONE) for comments by Friday 25 Feb. 22 (S. Zänker)*

*- Post the A.I.S.E. reply on the Commission’s website and in parallel send a mail to DG GROW expressing the A.I.S.E. viewpoint on the consultation (DONE)*

*Post meeting remark:* [*see HERE*](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15145)

AFTERNOON PART

1. EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL (S.Nissen, J.Robinson, D.Hemingway,)
	1. CSS – Ricardo economic analysis of impacts, A.I.S.E. messaging

The updated draft report, received from Ricardo, is being studied by the Secretariat to identify the main messages. The CSS/ZP SG has discussed A.I.S.E.’s position on the Generic Approach to Risk Management (in principle, irrespective of business impact), and members of the Secretariat and Board had an exchange on positions and approaches with Cosmetics Europe on 16 February. An update was provided on the development of the communication and advocacy plan (see slides).

* 1. CEAP – Substantiating Green Claims (state of play, technical & advocacy workstreams)

The MC was updated on the developments on the EU Green Deal developments related to the CEAP with focus on the green claim substantiation, including an update on the draft advocacy and communications strategy that is being developed by the ASG (see slides).

S. Nissen clarified that there is no active plan to deploy USEtox. Our official PEF pilot concluded that this method is considered not mature enough to be used for a PEF based product comparison. Therefore, the SSG recommends continuing with the risk-based ESC improvements and to develop a new generic approach to risk management (covering Ecotox and Human safety). However, we must understand the USEtox application field and limitations for our product portfolio to ensure that stakeholders understand this. MC members commented that this is important, as USEtox will not disappear. It was recommended to involve academia as independent third-party, also for reasons of credibility.

S. Nissen then referred to the discussion and conclusions from the February Board regarding the activities in the cosmetics sector:

* The Board agreed that we need (external) support to carry out the work ahead. Therefore, a detailed proposal for staffing and budget will be prepared for approval at the interim Board on 1 April.
* The board confirmed that we must not give up on the Charter as this has been the industry’s’ successful flagship initiative for more than 15 years, proven to be effective to help reduce the footprint of our sector overall, including SMEs. It uses a robust science-based approach, full life cycle assessment, and transparent independent third-party verification.
* Our scheme must work for all product categories, covering both, the homecare and PC&H sectors.
* The cosmetics Eco Beauty Score (EBS) is not a competitor to the Charter; the benchmark for us is PEF.
* However, A.I.S.E. should consider how we can build synergies with the cosmetics sector, especially about their plans to come up with a common database of environmental impacts of standard ingredients and raw materials used in formulas and packaging. To this regard, we should also refer to our approach, i.e., the ESC.

The MC is in agreement with the Board conclusion, asking to pay specific attention to the fact that the Charter and its product scheme are already addressing all relevant environmental impacts along the life-cycle for individual product categories. It was proposed to highlight this even more when communicating to external stakeholders, avoiding the impression that we focus solely on carbon footprint.

A specific point was made to keep the MC promptly informed and in the loop on those development. S. Nissen confirmed that this is indeed planned, e.g. prior to the interim Board meeting on 1 April, also via the members of the SSG and the CEAP team.

**ACTION:
- A.I.S.E. team to put item on the agenda of next MC meeting on 22 March.**

1. for information/ Questions only

see [annotated agenda](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15014)

* 1. CSS (J. Robinson)
		1. **High Level Roundtable**
		2. **Revision of CLP and REACH**
	2. Microplastics – COM study on unintentional releases (J. Robinson)
	A workshop was held on 17th February to begin addressing additional alleged sources of microplastics, including laundry and dishwasher detergent capsules. The presentation made is available [HERE.](https://aise.wall.idloom.com/#/filelastversion/15040)

The public consultation opened **on 20 February**, for a period of 12 weeks (**17 May**)**:**

[Microplastics pollution – measures to reduce its impact on the environment (europa.eu)](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12823-Microplastics-pollution-measures-to-reduce-its-impact-on-the-environment/public-consultation_en)
**ACTION:
- Members interested in contributing to the consultation should notify asap Jan.**

* 1. Restriction on phosphates in professional products (A. O’Kane)
	2. Organic food production (S. Benacquista / A. O’Kane)

A.I.S.E.’s position of January 2021 remains valid.

1. NEXT MEETING DATES

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Tuesday 22 March 2022  | 10:30 – 13:00 | Webconference |
| Tuesday 22 March ***(joint meeting with NAC)*** | 13:30 – 16:30 | Webconference  |
| 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.) |

Document name: 2022-02-22 MC Minutes A.I.S.E., 2022