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ANNEX

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**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE  
COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

**Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability Towards a toxic-free environment**

#### **ACTION PLAN**

*The measures presented in this action plan will all need to be taken forward in line with the  
better regulation principles, including evaluations and impact assessments as appropriate*

<b>Key actions to be taken by the Commission</b>	<b>Indicative timing</b>
	[lead service is indicated for internal purposes only and will be removed in final Communication]

Strengthen the EU legal framework to address pressing environmental and health concerns	
<i>Endocrine disruptors</i>	
Proposal for a <b>horizontal identification of endocrine disruptors under EU legislative framework</b>	2021 ENV, GROW
Horizontal proposal to <b>review and strengthen if necessary information requirements on endocrine disruptors in the relevant legislation to improve identification of endocrine disruptors</b>	2021-2022 ENV
Development of <b>new test methods for the screening and testing of endocrine disruptors</b>	2020-... JRC, RTD, ENV, SANTE
<i>Chemical mixtures</i>	
<b>Introduce methodologies on mixtures for the risk assessment and risk management of pesticides</b> under the Maximum Residue Level Regulation, the Plant Protection Product Regulation and the Biocidal Product Regulation;	(to be completed by ) SANTE
<b>Development of methodologies and guidance</b> for the assessment of human health risk from multiple chemicals under relevant legislation	2020-2022 JRC, SANTE, ENV
Launch work on how to integrate toxicity resulting from unintentional mixtures in chemicals legislation, starting with hazard and risk assessment methodologies applied to REACH and CLP	2022 ENV, GROW
Proposals to introduce adequate legal provisions to take account of the <b>combination effects in other relevant legislation</b>	2020-... ENV, SANTE, GROW
<i>Chemicals in the environment</i>	
Proposals to include new hazard classes and criteria under UN/GHS and the CLP Regulation to <b>fully address environmental toxicity, persistency, mobility and bioaccumulation</b> ;	2021-22 ENV, GROW

Tackle the concerns posed by <b>persistent, mobile and toxic (PMT) and very persistent and very mobile (vPvM) substances</b>	2021-22 ENV, GROW
<i>PFAS</i>	
Proposals under REACH and the sustainable products legislative initiative to restrict <b>PFAS as a group to minimise the emissions in the EU</b> .	2020-2024 ENV, GROW

Initiative to add <b>PFAS where possible as a group under the water legislation</b> (drinking water, groundwater and surface water), by adding them to the relevant annexes	2020-2024 ENV
Proposal to address the <b>presence of PFAS in food</b> via the relevant legislation	2021 SANTE
Initiatives to address <b>emissions and reporting of PFAS from industrial plants</b> in the upcoming review of the Industrial Emissions directive and European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, including options for enhancing the contribution of IED to promoting the use of safer chemicals.	2020-2024 ENV
Initiatives to address the <b>emissions of PFAS from the waste stage</b> using instruments under the POP Regulation, the Waste Framework Directive and the potential future review of the Sewage Sludge Directive	2020_2024 ENV
Proposals under the Stockholm Convention, the Basel Convention and UNGHS to <b>address PFAS concerns at a global scale</b>	2023-2024 ENV
Establish an <b>EU wide approach and adequate funding to identify and remediate cases of contamination</b> in the environment as well as legacy presence in products and materials, to monitor the presence of PFAS in humans and the environment, to guarantee safe disposal and for innovation to substitute PFAS.	2020-2024 RTD
<b>Promoting safe and sustainable innovation for EU competitiveness and a green and digital recovery</b>	
<i>Safe and sustainable-by-design</i>	
Develop <b>EU safe and sustainable-by-design criteria</b> , and ensure financial support for the development, commercialisation and uptake of safe and sustainable-by-design substances, materials and products	2021-22 RTD, ENV, GROW
Initiate <b>an EU-wide safe and sustainable-by-design Support Network</b> , to promote cooperation on substitution and safe innovations	2021-23 RTD, ENV, GROW

Promote <b>public-private partnerships</b> to facilitate <b>development and market uptake</b> of safe and sustainable chemicals and <b>support the enhancing of adequate skills at all levels</b>	2021-... EIT, RTD, GROW
<b>Explore with academia how to promote and include environmental and health toxicity subjects in chemistry faculties.</b>	
<i>Non-toxic material cycles</i>	
Proposal to introduce, through the forthcoming <b>legislative initiative on sustainable products</b> , minimum requirements to minimise the presence of substances of concern in products and minimum information requirements on chemical content and safe use	2021-2022 ENV, GROW, ENER
Ensure that <b>authorisations and derogations from restrictions for recycled materials</b> under REACH are exceptional and of temporary nature	2020-... ENV-GROW
Support <b>investments in innovative technologies that can decontaminate waste streams, increase safe recycling</b> and reduce the export of waste	2021-... GROW, ENV, RTD
<i>Resilience and EU's open strategic autonomy</i>	
Set up a <b>Sustainable Chemicals Platform to ensure a stable dialogue between the Commission and the industry</b> producing and using chemicals to promote EU's strategic autonomy and the uptake of safe and sustainable innovations	2021 GROW, ENV
<b>Alliance to promote the resilience of supply and open strategic autonomy of critical chemicals for essential medicines</b>	2021 (tbc) GROW, SANTE
Integrate <b>sustainable chemicals in the Smart Specialisation Strategy</b>	2021-... REGIO
<b>Mobilise EU funding and investment mechanisms</b> to promote the resilience of supply and sustainability in Europe of <b>chemicals used in essential applications for society</b>	2021-24 GROW REGIO, ECFIN, RTD
<i>Green and digital recovery and transition</i>	
Promote the <b>re-skilling and upskilling of the workforce</b> involved in the production and use of chemicals	(date to be completed ) GROW
<b>Facilitate access to risk finance and investments in R&amp;D</b> in particular for SMEs and start-ups	2020-... GROW

Promote the development of <b>green and smart technologies and innovative business models</b>	2020-... RTD
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<b>Achieving a coherent, effective and efficient legal framework</b>	
<i>One substance, one assessment</i>	
Establish an <b>EU process for better coordination, prioritisation and increased transparency of decisions on regulatory actions thus creating EU level accountability and legitimacy</b> for the initiation of scientific assessments performed with EU budget and for regulatory action at EU level	2021-... ENV, GROW, SANTE, ECHA, EFSA
<b>Review the attribution of technical and scientific work on chemicals</b> performed under the relevant pieces of legislation to make the best use of expertise and resources in European Agencies and Scientific Committees	2022 ENV, SANTE, GROW
Assess how to <b>strengthen the governance of the European Chemicals Agency, in particular whether it will be appropriate to create a new Founding Regulation separate from REACH, and review its</b> the sustainability of its financing model	2022-23 GROW, ENV
Proposal to <b>give the Commission the mandate to initiate harmonised classification</b> dossiers under the CLP Regulation, linked with the smart regulatory approach.	2021 ENV, GROW
Development of a <b>EU repository of human and environmental healthbased limit values</b>	2021 ENV, GROW, ECHA, EFSA
<i>Simplified and faster risk management</i>	
	2021-24 ENV, GROW, SANTE, EMPL
	2021-.. ENV, GROW
	2021-22 ENV, GROW



Enhance the safety of childcare articles and other products for children (other than toys) against chemical hazards through the adoption of new safety requirements. The chemical properties of child care articles shall be in line with the state of the art knowledge, including the limits set in other relevant pieces of EU legislation.	
On the basis of the <b>definition of essential uses</b> in the Montreal Protocol, assess and consider if the concept could be used to manage risks and minimise exposure to certain chemicals	2020-21 ENV, GROW
Explore the possibilities to make a legislative proposals to introduce digital labelling for chemicals, detergents and fertilisers	
Assess need and possibility to <b>revise the REACH authorisation and restriction processes</b>	2021-22 ENV, GROW
<i>Zero tolerance approach to non-compliance</i>	
Establish a <b>European Audit Capacity</b> to inspect enforcement systems for chemicals in Member States and issue recommendations	2021-23 ENV, GROW
Initiative to ensure <b>compliance checks on all registrations of substances under REACH</b>	2021-22 ENV, GROW
Proposal to <b>revoke the registration number for non-compliant registrations</b> of substances under REACH	2021-22 ENV, GROW
Proposal to <b>extend OLAF's mandate to the surveillance of all illicit products placed on the EU market</b>	(to be completed by ) OLAF
Proposal for amending the Aarhus Regulation to ensure <b>access to justice on behalf of environmental and consumer interests</b>	(to be completed by) ENV
<b>Providing a comprehensive and transparent knowledge</b>	
<i>Data requirements</i>	
assess the impacts of and consider a proposal to amend <b>data requirements under REACH</b> to ensure an effective identification of substances with critical hazard properties, to allow moving towards grouping approaches, to register a sub-set of polymers and to extend the obligation of chemical safety report for substances between 1-10 tonnes	2021-22 ENV, GROW

Initiatives to <b>track harmful chemicals through the lifecycle of materials and products</b>	2020-22 ENV, GROW, CNECT
<i>Access and sharing of data</i>	
Develop a <b>common open platform on chemical safety data</b> to facilitate access and re-use of chemical safety data, also to avoid unnecessary animal testing	2020-2022 ENV, GROW, JRC, ECHA
Proposal to <b>remove legislative obstacles for re-use of data</b> and to streamline the flow of chemical data	2021-23 ENV, SANTE, GROW

Develop a tool for making <b>all relevant academic data easily and readily accessible</b> for the assessment and decision-making processes	2021-23 ENV, SANTE, GROW, ECHA, EFSA
Consider establishing a mechanism to <b>enable the Commission, EU agencies and national authorities to generate hazard and occurrence data</b>	2023 ENV, GROW, SANTE, ECHA, EFSA
Develop a <b>comprehensive indicator framework</b> on the impact of chemicals and the effectiveness of chemicals legislation	2021-2024 ENV, GROW, ESTAT, JRC
Evaluate the <b>transparency principles</b> from the EU food safety sector and consider a legislative proposal to <b>extend the principle of open data</b> to other pieces of chemical legislation	2021-2023 ENV, GROW, SANTE
<i>Knowledge needs</i>	
Develop a strategic <b>R&amp;I agenda</b> for chemicals by a <b>EU-level Coordination Group with Member States and stakeholders</b>	2021-22 RTD (tbc)
Ensure adequate funding to develop a <b>EU-wide human and environmental (bio)monitoring capacities</b>	2020-... RTD
Support <b>R&amp;I for advanced tools, methods and models, new data and data analysis capacities</b> for safety testing and chemical risk assessment, including in particular non-animal methods	2020-... RTD, CNECT
Establish a <b>EU Chemical Early Warning and Action System</b>	2020-2023 ENV
<b>Provide a model inspiring chemicals management globally</b>	

<b>International leadership</b>		
Lead <b>international work to meet the 2020 goal</b> for the sound management of chemicals throughout their lifecycle	2020-2024	ENV
Strive for the <b>adoption of global Strategic Objectives and Targets for the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020</b>	2020-2021	ENV
Supporting <b>follow-up action to the resolutions</b> on the sound management of chemicals and waste adopted at the UN Environment Assembly	2020-...	ENV
Support for the <b>implementation of chemicals related international conventions</b> including through UNEA's Special Programme for the sound management of chemicals and waste	2020-...	ENV
Initiatives to promote the <b>use of the UN GHS internationally</b> as the preferred means for communicating on chemical hazards to workers and consumers	2020-2024	ENV, GROW
Proposal at the <b>UN GHS level to introduce new criteria or hazard classes</b> - PBTs/vPvBs, terrestrial toxicity, endocrine disruptors, persistency and mobility	2020-2022	ENV, GROW
Promote the listing of substances and further protection of health and environment from hazardous substances under the <b>Stockholm, Basel, Rotterdam, Minamata and Montreal conventions</b>	2020-2024	ENV
Promote <b>common standards and innovative risk assessment tools internationally</b>	2021-2024	JRC, ENV
Tracking and assessment of <b>progress by the EU and its partners</b> on chemicals-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements	2020-2024	ENV, TRADE, EEAS
<b>Cooperation with third countries</b>		
<b>Mainstream the sound management of chemicals</b> in external financial instruments and in relevant bilateral and regional initiatives Support <b>capacity building in third countries</b> on the assessment and management of chemicals	2020-2022	ENV, GROW, NEAR, DEVCO
Initiatives to promote the <b>sound management of chemicals through EU's international cooperation</b> instruments and programmes	2020-...	DEVCO, NEAR, EEAS, ENV



Initiatives to <b>promote through EU's trade agreements</b> the enforcement of MEAs and high standards of protection of health and environment	2020-2024 TRADE	ENV-
Promote and implement a <b>single approach to the exports and imports of hazardous chemicals</b>	2020-... GROW- OLAF-JUST	ENV-
Proposal to promote <b>due diligence in the sustainable production and use of chemicals</b> under the future initiative on sustainable corporate governance	2020-2024 JUST (tbc)	
Global <b>pledging campaign to progressively substitute the most hazardous chemicals</b> and promote safe and sustainable by design approaches	(to be completed by) GROW	