

## Co-opted members of the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) : call for candidates

Do you want to be part of the EU's scientific assessment on the use of chemicals? Do you want to contribute to protecting human health and the environment? Do you want to join the key EU committees on chemical safety?

We are looking for:

- **Experts** in human and environmental risk assessment of chemicals (including substances related to drinking water and waste batteries), occupational hygiene, chemical exposure assessment. **The call for RAC candidates has been closed on 8 April**
- **Experts** in substitution of substances of very high concern (SVHCs) and analysis of alternatives, as well as socio-economic analysis. **The call for SEAC candidates has been extended until 22 April at noon 12.00 Helsinki time**

**The closing date for submission of applications for this call is 8 April 2024 at noon 12.00 Helsinki time (11.00 Central European Time). NOTE: The call for SEAC candidates has been extended until 22 April 2024 at noon 12.00 Helsinki time (11.00 Central European Time).**

The Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) prepares opinions of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on the hazards and risks of substances to human health and the environment, while the Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) prepares ECHA's opinions related to the socio-economic impact of possible regulatory actions on chemicals. In particular, RAC and SEAC are tasked to prepare and adopt opinions on **restrictions** and **applications for authorisations**. In addition, RAC issues opinions on **harmonized classification and labelling, on materials coming in contact with drinking water and on occupational exposure limits (OELs)**. The opinions of RAC and SEAC provide scientific input for the European Commission to take its regulatory decisions.

The members of the two committees are highly qualified, specialised and independent scientific experts in different areas relating to the risks of chemicals to human health and the environment and to socio-economic analysis. They are appointed in their personal capacity as independent experts<sup>1</sup>.

RAC and SEAC aim to have a broad range of relevant expertise among their members. In addition to the members nominated by Member States, RAC and SEAC may co-opt a maximum of five additional members chosen on the basis of their specific competences.

This call for candidates aims to identify suitable candidates to be appointed as co-opted members of RAC or SEAC.

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<sup>1</sup> Art. 85, 87 and 88 of REACH Regulation (No 1907/2006) provide an overview on the establishment of ECHA Committees and on their membership. <https://echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach/legislation>

## 1. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

If you are selected, you will work as a *co-opted member* of ECHA's *Committee for Risk Assessment* or *Committee for Socio-economic Analysis*. In particular, you will be required to take an active role in the following tasks:

- Act as (co-)rapporteur on behalf of the relevant committee, drafting scientific opinions on restrictions (including on batteries), applications for authorisation and (for RAC) setting of occupational exposure limits and opinions on materials coming in contact with drinking water, in teams with regular members of RAC and SEAC.
- Prepare for and attend plenary meetings, working groups and other activities of the committees<sup>2</sup>.
- Contribute with your expertise and advice in meetings and during written consultations of the committees on request of the ECHA Secretariat.

Successful candidates will have a term of 3 years, starting with the date of their appointment.

The working language of the committees is English.

In consideration of the workload and complexity of the tasks, successful candidates are expected to spend up to 50% of their working time on the committees' work.

## 2. REQUIREMENTS

### a) Required qualifications & professional experience

#### RAC:

Your academic qualifications should be relevant to the EU regulatory framework on chemicals, including on restrictions (according to REACH and Batteries Regulation), applications for authorisation, harmonized classification and labelling, occupational exposure limits and drinking water directive. Academic qualifications relevant to the work of RAC and/or a minimum of 10 years professional experience in the following fields are required:

- Human health and environmental risk assessment;
- Drinking water and materials coming in contact with it;
- Batteries and waste batteries;
- Ecotoxicology, biodegradation and environmental fate;
- Occupational medicine;
- Cancer risk assessment;
- Epidemiology.

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<sup>2</sup> See tentative schedule of RAC and SEAC meetings: <https://echa.europa.eu/meetings-of-the-rac/2024> and <https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/who-we-are/committee-for-socio-economic-analysis/meetings-of-the-seac/2024>

### **SEAC:**

It is required that candidates hold academic qualifications relevant to the work of SEAC and/or can demonstrate substantive professional experience in one or more of the following fields:

- Analysis of technical and economic feasibility of alternatives;
- Knowledge about substitution of substances of concern, such as SVHCs;
- Economics, in particular welfare, public sector, environmental or health economics;
- Methodologies analysing costs and benefits of regulation;
- Technical expertise in different types of battery technologies, including the waste stage, will be considered an asset.

### **b) General competences**

- Ability to work efficiently in a multidisciplinary expert team;
- Aptitude for negotiation and consensus-building on complex matters;
- Ability to keep timetables under pressure;
- Very good skills in written and spoken English.

### **c) Desirable expertise/experience**

The following additional areas of expertise/experience are considered an asset for this call:

- Experience with scientific and regulatory committee work at national or international level;
- Experience working in the public service of an EU Member State/EEA-EFTA country, or in academia;
- Relevant industry or consultancy experience on chemicals (when not in conflict with the eligibility criteria as referred to in section 3 below).

## **3. CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

The rules of the ECHA policy on the prevention and management of conflicts of interests apply<sup>3</sup>. This includes the application of Generic exclusion criteria for candidates for membership in the ECHA bodies (see Annex II of the above mentioned document). You are therefore invited to check them carefully on ECHA's website at <http://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/procedures-and-policies/conflicts-of-interest>. This means that the generic exclusion criteria for ECHA committees will be applied when appointing new co-opted members based on completed declarations of interest.

## **4. REMUNERATION**

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<sup>3</sup> [https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/27315551/mb\\_19\\_2023-3\\_annex\\_2\\_coi\\_procedure\\_echa\\_bodies\\_en.pdf/c99ee793-5fa7-ca0d-42bb-7e273803263b?t=1690522348084](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/27315551/mb_19_2023-3_annex_2_coi_procedure_echa_bodies_en.pdf/c99ee793-5fa7-ca0d-42bb-7e273803263b?t=1690522348084)

The remuneration of nominated candidates depends on their professional conditions.

Successful candidates employed in the public service of a Member State Competent Authority (the MSCA) under the REACH Regulation or a public body nominated by the MSCA will be remunerated according to the ECHA Management Board Decision on the financial arrangements for the transfer of a proportion of fees to Member States ([MB/41/2020](#)). The transfer of fees is designed to compensate the MSCAs (or other public bodies nominated by them) for rapporteur work done in RAC and SEAC; such transfers between an MSCA and another public body are to be decided at the national level.

Successful candidates not employed in the public service of an EU Member State or an EEA-EFTA country will be remunerated for attendance at RAC/SEAC meetings (at a rate of EUR 450 per day including web-based meetings) and per actual day of work, up to a ceiling, as laid down in the Management Board Decision ([MB/35/2023](#)).

In addition, for all co-opted members, travel and accommodation expenses will be reimbursed in line with the ECHA Management Board Document ([MB/14/2018](#)).

## 5. HOW TO APPLY

Candidatures should be submitted via a [web form](#) to which a [Europass CV](#) should be attached, **by 8 April 2024, at noon 12.00 Helsinki time**. Only properly completed online web forms will be considered. **NOTE: The call for SEAC candidates has been extended until 22 April 2024 at noon 12.00 Helsinki time (11.00 Central European Time).**

Expressions of interest under this call will not be accepted after the deadline has expired.

**Prospective applicants may send any questions to [expert-calls@echa.europa.eu](mailto:expert-calls@echa.europa.eu).**

## 6. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Candidates will be reviewed based on their expression of interest and the attached CV's, and may be invited by the Agency to a phone interview. Candidates considered for interviews will be asked to submit a declaration of interest form, in line with section 3 above.

As a result of the selection process, a list of suitable candidates will be drawn up.

RAC and SEAC will appoint up to 5 co-opted members each from the list of suitable candidates. The appointment is expected in September 2024 at the latest.