

PetCo working group 18th meeting notes (WebEx meeting, 27 April 2022)

The 18th PETCO WG WebEx meeting took place on 27 April 2022.

28 external participants attended the meeting remotely representing 6 Member States (BE, DE, ES, PL, NL, FR) and 4 industry organisations (Concawe, CEFIC Coal Chemicals Sector Group (CCSG), Lower Olefins and Aromatics (LOA), HydroCarbon Solvents (HCSC)).

The focus of the meeting was to discuss **progress with stakeholders from both human health and environmental hazard assessment**. Stakeholders have provided an update focusing in particular on the environmental side of the hazard assessment as for the human health testing proposals are ongoing. The work is progressing but is quite challenging from an environment perspective where different approaches are being developed depending on the substances (e.g. constituent approach, blocks approach). On the testing proposals ECHA emphasised the need to bring coherent proposals covering all members of a category.

Germany (UBA) introduced the findings of a study on "**intermediates' uses of PetCo substances**". The report will be published soon and is an attempt to understand whether and how constituents of PetCo substances pass through the supply chain and may end up in other substances.

ECHA brought an update on **REACH Annex XI** and the guidance being developed in ECHA to support interpreting the new Annex XI. This guidance will be made publicly available on ECHA website as soon as ready.

Stakeholders also asked for clarifications on the scope of the restriction roadmap work for petroleum substances. ECHA clarified that the **restriction roadmap** was recently published and that the intention is to do some further work in particular on uses before clarifying the scope of the potential restriction for petroleum substances. ECHA also indicated that so far, the scope covers professional and consumer uses and that the ongoing work on hazards is still necessary. Both hazards and uses are being investigated before initiating further restriction work on those substances. The PetCo working group can be used in this preliminary phase of the work as an exchange platform on this work.