



Proposal PFAS restriction

webinar 27/6/2023

# Please

- Switch off camera
- Mute yourself
- Questions in chat

# Content

- Aim of the webinar
- Status of the general PFAS proposal (and related)
- Process and timeline
- Activities ESF
- Your involvement
- Q&A

# Aim of the webinar

- Share info on
  - status of the proposal
  - Process
- What is ESF doing and what can members do
- Collect and answer questions (where possible)

# Status of the general PFAS proposal (and related)

- See presentation given at the ESF PPE seminar by Martijn Beekman of DG GROW, REACH Unit on 15th of June 2023



# Restrictions to the use of PFAS

Upcoming European measures to potentially restrict the use of the broad group of PFAS in PPE

*Martijn Beekman*

*European Commission, DG GROW*

# Content

## 1. Restrictions to manufacture and use

- Stockholm Convention, POP regulation
- REACH restriction

## 2. Broad PFAS restriction

### *Disclaimers:*

- *always check all details in the official regulation*
- *several restriction dossiers are under development*
- *restriction is not always a prohibition*

# Stockholm Convention - process

- 1. Proposal for listing a new chemical**  
Any party of the Convention, proposal should contain Annex D information
- 2. Apply screening criteria**  
Committee examines proposal, Secretariat invites Parties and observers to provide Annex E information
- 3. Develop a risk profile**  
Committee develops a risk profile and evaluates, Secretariat invites Parties and observers to provide Annex F information
- 4. Develop a risk management evaluation**  
Committee develops a risk management evaluation and recommends to COP if the chemicals should be listed
- 5. List the chemical in Annex A, B, and/or C**  
COP decides on listing

[Stockholm Convention - Home page \(pops.int\)](https://pops.int)



# Stockholm Convention – PFAS

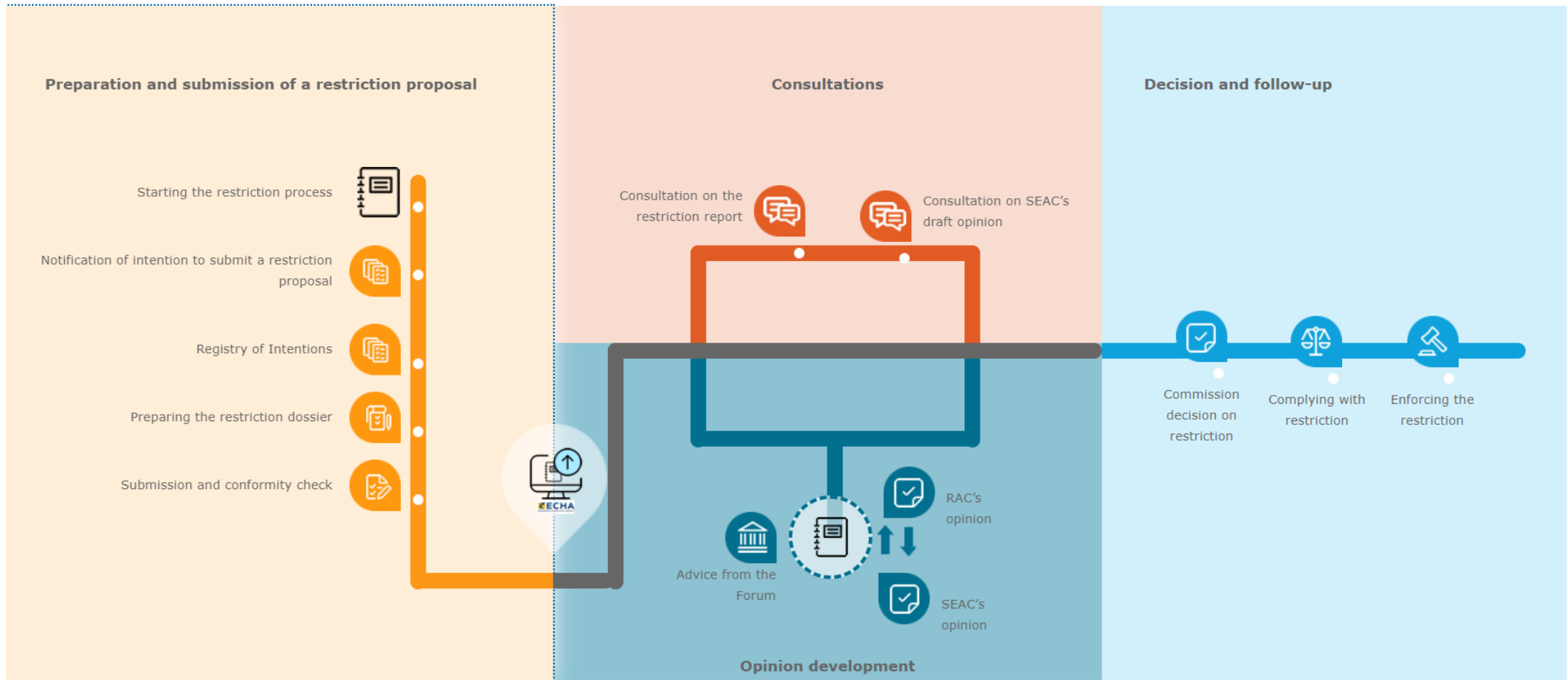
Global ban on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), in Europe implemented by the POP regulation

- Chemicals list in Annex A (elimination)
  - PFOA (C8)
  - PFHxS (C6) (*EU implementation on-going*)
- Chemicals list in Annex B (restriction)
  - PFOS (C8)
- Chemicals proposed for listing
  - Long chain PFCAs (C9-C21)

# Derogations for PPE

- PFOA: textiles for oil- and water-repellency for the protection of workers from dangerous liquids that comprise risks to their health and safety, until 4 July 2023;
- PFOS and PFHxS: no PPE derogations

# REACH restriction - process



# REACH restriction - PFAS

## Annex XVII of REACH

- C9-C14 PFCAs (entry 68)
- TDFAs<sup>1</sup> (entry 73)
- PFHxS, *RAC-SEAC opinion published 2020 → POP regulation*
- PFHxA, *RAC-SEAC opinion published 2022 → Commission proposal June 2023*
- PFAS in firefighting foams, *RAC-SEAC opinion finalised June 2023*
- Universal PFAS, *consultation on-going till 25 September 2023*

<sup>1</sup> Trideca-fluorooctyl silanetriol

# Derogations for PPE

- C9-C14 PFCAs: textiles for oil- and water-repellency for the protection of workers from dangerous liquids that comprise risks to their health and safety, until 4 July 2023;
- TPFAs: PPE not in scope of the restriction (mainly applicable to consumer spray products)
- PFHxA: next slide

# PFHxA

PPE in scope of the PFHxA of the Annex XV dossier, derogations proposed

- RAC did not support derogations for PPE
- SEAC did support derogations for PPE:
  - personal protective equipment intended to protect users against risks as specified in Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Annex I, Risk Category III (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (h), (l);
  - personal protective equipment specifically designed for armed forces and in the maintenance of law and order against the risk categories listed in paragraph 8(b) and protective clothing specifically designed for armed forces and in the maintenance of law and order or other emergency response workers;
  - high visibility clothing fulfilling the requirements of EN ISO 20471 Class 3;

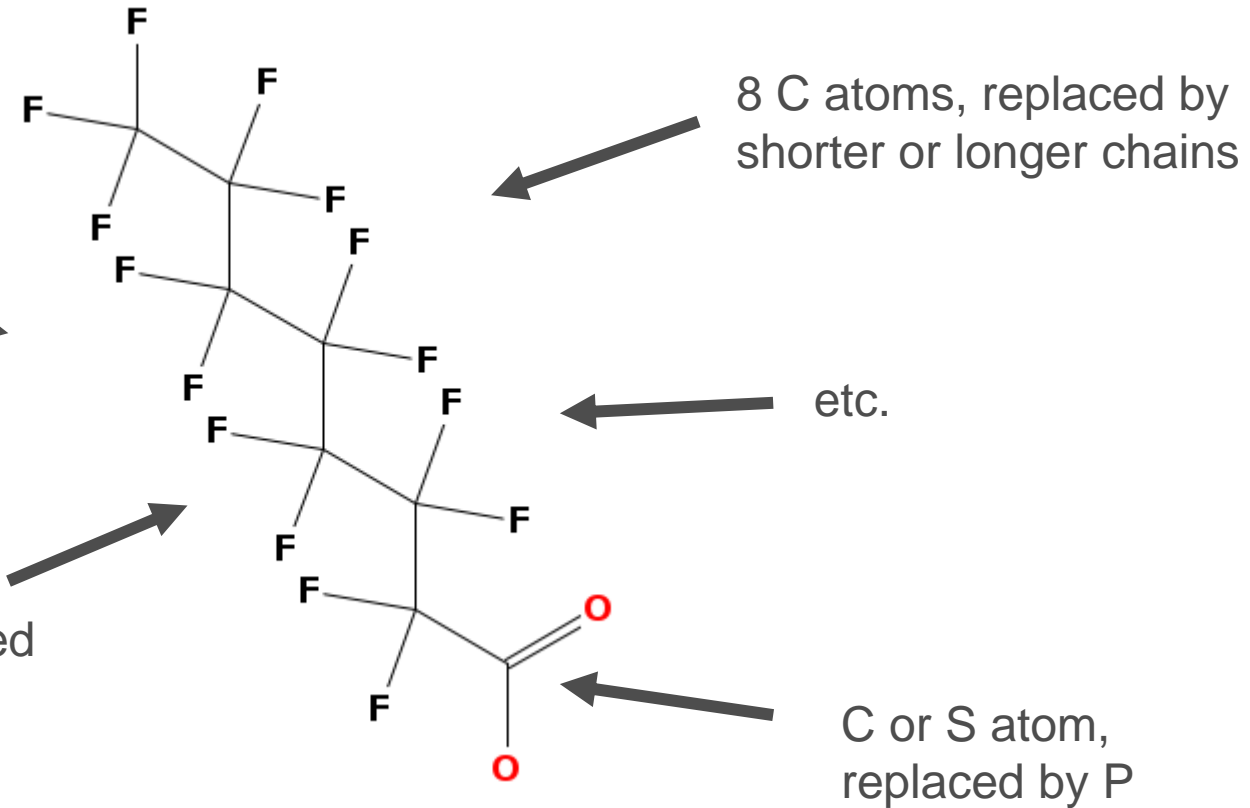
14. • COM proposal in preparation

# Broad PFAS restriction: need for grouping

Regrettable substitution

Linear chain: replaced by branched chains

Functional ether group (-O-) added



# PFAS groups (OECD)





# Universal PFAS

- Dossier is submitted January 2023 by DE, DK, NL, NO, SE
- Provide your input in the consultation (till 25 September 2023)  
<https://echa.europa.eu/restrictions-under-consideration/-/substance-rev/72301/term>
- Broad chemical scope (OECD 2021), including fluoropolymers
- Common concern: extreme persistence
- According to the current REACH legislation

# Thank you



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Slide <sup>18</sup>xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [Fotolia.com](https://www.fotolia.com/); Slide xx: **element concerned**, source: e.g. [iStock.com](https://www.istock.com/)



# Process and timeline

- see info from FPP4EU on process + tips to respond

Remark : the slides from FPP4EU are copyright protected and it was asked not to share those slides, so they are deleted from the presentation that is shared. The ESF secretariat will work on a way to share the content related to PPE to share with the participants. Excuses for the inconvenience.

# process

- ECHA
  - RAC : Risk Analysis Committee
  - SEAC : Socio-Economic Analysis Committee
- Committees decided to work per sector – food contact materials and packaging (+ hazard in RAC) are the first
- First draft opinion of RAC and SEAC discussed in September 2023
- Once SEAC opinion is agreed -> 60 day consultation (only on opinion).

# process

- EU Commission drafts the legislation considering the reports of RAC and SEAC
  - Delegated act, so only scrutiny by Parliament and Council

# Consultation – deadline 25/09/2023

- Consultation on a proposed restriction on the manufacture, placing on the market and use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) :  
[https://comments.echa.europa.eu/comments\\_cms/AnnexXVREstrictionDossier.aspx?RObjectId=0b0236e1885e69de](https://comments.echa.europa.eu/comments_cms/AnnexXVREstrictionDossier.aspx?RObjectId=0b0236e1885e69de)
- Evidence ! See tips received during FPP4EU meeting
- Alternatives ?
- Resubmit information previously submitted if relevant

# Tips from FPP4EU

- Alternatives ?
- Re-submit information previously submitted if relevant
- Do not go through alternative routes (e.g. direct contact with committee members)
- Do not assume readers of the contribution are familiar with PPE
- Answer the questions (not only position paper)
- Structure input

# Activities ESF

- Feedback to consultations in the past
- Specific TG under WG sustainability
- Preparing response to current consultation
- Member of FPP4EU (group under Cefic)
- Applied for ‘accredited stakeholder’ at ECHA
  
- Work with other associations (e.g. Euratex – ETSA)



# Your involvement

- Complete questionnaire sent out
- Provide as much input as possible by end of August for ESF to consolidate before the deadline (and ask you further questions if needed)
- Respond as company to the consultation before deadline 25/9

# Info available on [www.echa.eu](http://www.echa.eu)

- Page dedicated to PFAS : <https://echa.europa.eu/hot-topics/perfluoroalkyl-chemicals-pfas>
- Recording of info session on PFAS by ECHA : <https://echa.europa.eu/-/restriction-of-per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfass-under-reach>
- Submitted restrictions under consideration : <https://echa.europa.eu/restrictions-under-consideration/-/substance-rev/72301/term>
- Consultation on a proposed restriction on the manufacture, placing on the market and use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) : <https://comments.echa.europa.eu/comments/cms/AnnexXVRestrictionDossier.aspx?RObjectid=0b0236e1885e69de>

# Info available on [www.echa.eu](http://www.echa.eu)

- Inputting to the consultation phase of an Annex XV restriction report and SEAC draft opinion under REACH :  
[https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13641/restriction\\_consultation\\_guidance\\_en.pdf/7c4705d5-ad01-43ed-a611-06f1426a595c](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13641/restriction_consultation_guidance_en.pdf/7c4705d5-ad01-43ed-a611-06f1426a595c)
- Comments for Annex XV restriction report :  
[https://comments.echa.europa.eu/comments\\_cms/AnnexXVRestrictionDossier.aspx?RObjectid=0b0236e1885e69de](https://comments.echa.europa.eu/comments_cms/AnnexXVRestrictionDossier.aspx?RObjectid=0b0236e1885e69de)

Info available on [www.fpp4eu.eu](http://www.fpp4eu.eu) , e.g.

- FPP4EU value chain factsheets – PFAS used in :
  - Industrial settings : [https://www.fpp4eu.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Value-chain-factsheet\\_Industrial-settings-A4.pdf](https://www.fpp4eu.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Value-chain-factsheet_Industrial-settings-A4.pdf)
  - Health : <https://www.fpp4eu.eu/library/value-chain-factsheet-health/>
  - Electronics : <https://www.fpp4eu.eu/library/value-chain-factsheet-electronics/>
  - Automotive : <https://www.fpp4eu.eu/library/value-chain-factsheet-automotive/>

# Other sources of info

- Chemsec (<https://chemsec.org/>) – NGO focussing on chemicals :
  - PFAS guide : <https://pfas.chemsec.org/>
  - Webinar “All you need to know about the PFAS restriction consultation” : <https://chemsec.org/all-you-need-to-know-about-the-pfas-restriction-consultation/>
  - Webinar “Find out how to replace “difficult” PFAS uses with safer alternatives” : <https://chemsec.org/find-out-how-to-replace-difficult-pfas-uses-with-safer-alternatives/>
  - Chemsec PFAS Movement : <https://chemsec.org/pfas/>

# Q & A