

## Work Programme – Highlights for 2015



In 2015, ECHA's focus remains on the safe use of chemicals through the implementation of its four strategic objectives.

Among its many activities, the Agency takes major steps to improve the user friendliness of its tools ahead of the 2018 registration deadline and streamlines the authorisation and biocides related processes.

### FOUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1 Maximising the availability of high quality information to enable the safe manufacture and use of chemicals
- 2 Mobilising authorities to use information intelligently to identify and address chemicals of concern
- 3 Addressing the scientific challenges by serving as a hub for building scientific and regulatory capacity of Member States, European institutions and other actors
- 4 Embracing current and new legislative tasks efficiently and effectively, while adapting to upcoming resource constraints

## 1 Maximising the availability of high quality information to enable the safe manufacture and use of chemicals

The year 2015 is crucial for ECHA's preparation for the last REACH registration deadline. By 2018, companies manufacturing or importing chemicals of one tonne or more per year need to have registered their substances. Among the registrants will be many small and medium-sized enterprises that are inexperienced with REACH. The support provided by ECHA will become even more essential so that these companies can provide high-quality data on substances in their registrations. This support includes revised IT tools for dossier preparation and submission as well as updated guidance documents and web content.

To reach out to companies that are still not aware of their obligations under the EU chemicals legislation, ECHA cooperates with the Member States, accredited stakeholders and other European networks. Wherever possible, this collaboration leads to sector-specific support.

ECHA evaluates the quality of information in registration dossiers by conducting compliance checks. In doing this, it focuses on substances and endpoints that matter the most for human health and the environment.

To enable citizens to get information on chemicals, ECHA publishes non-confidential information from registration dossiers on its website. In 2015, the Agency is undertaking a major project to improve the user-friendliness of the platform and will publish information on substances in a completely new format. This includes the substances' intrinsic properties, hazards, uses and regulatory status in an easily accessible format.

## 2 Mobilising authorities to use information intelligently to identify and address chemicals of concern

ECHA and the Member States' authorities screen ECHA's data bases and identify dangerous chemicals which require additional risk management. In 2015, these activities are leading to more risk management option analyses and subsequent proposals for restrictions, authorisation or harmonised classification and labelling of dangerous chemicals. The number of

substances of very high concern put forward for the Candidate List for authorisation is expected to increase, in line with the 2020 target of having all relevant known substances of very high concern on the list.

Member States evaluate substances with which they have potential concern. After the first three years of substance evaluation, ECHA will assess the process, its outcomes and how substance evaluation contributes to risk management and the improvement of data quality. A common screening approach will help Member States to select substances for effective risk management at EU level.

For 2015, a large number of applications for authorisation to use a specific hazardous substance are expected. They will be assessed by ECHA and its scientific Committees.

### Estimates for 2015

#### Maximise the availability of high quality data

Registration dossiers submitted	5 700
Inquiries (related to registration)	1 400
Alternative name requests	150
Notifications for PPORD (Product and process oriented research and development)	400
Compliance check decisions	120
Testing proposal decisions	180
Dossier evaluation follow-up examinations	400

#### Mobilise authorities to identify and address chemicals of concern

Substances to be evaluated by the Member States	55
Substance evaluation decisions	40
Restriction proposals	9
Substances of very high concern - identification proposals	50
Proposals for harmonised classification and labelling	60
Authorisation applications	70

**3** Addressing the scientific challenges by serving as a hub for building scientific and regulatory capacity of Member States, European institutions and other actors

ECHA develops its scientific capacity in line with its science strategy, outlining the most important areas from the regulatory decision-making perspective.

When the European Commission adapts in 2015 the REACH information requirements to better take into account the specific aspects of nanomaterials, ECHA will update its specific guidance and increase its activities to improve the quality of registration data for nanomaterials. The Agency continues to contribute to developing new testing and assessment methods of hazardous chemicals. This includes work on alternative methods to testing on animals.



**4** Embracing current and new legislative tasks efficiently and effectively, while adapting to upcoming resource constraints

To achieve its ambitious targets with decreasing staff resources, ECHA will further improve its efficiency. In 2015, the Agency will also invest in IT systems to both serve industry and the Member States better, but also to improve its internal processes.

Regarding the Biocidal Products Regulation, ECHA's priorities in 2015 are the preparation of decisions and the support for the review programme of active substances. However, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the volume of applications and related fee income. The use of resources will be in line with the real workload.

Estimates for 2015

**Biocides**

Active substances to be assessed	50
Applications for Union Authorisation	12
Applications for active substance suppliers	150
Applications for technical equivalence and chemical similarity	30

**PIC**

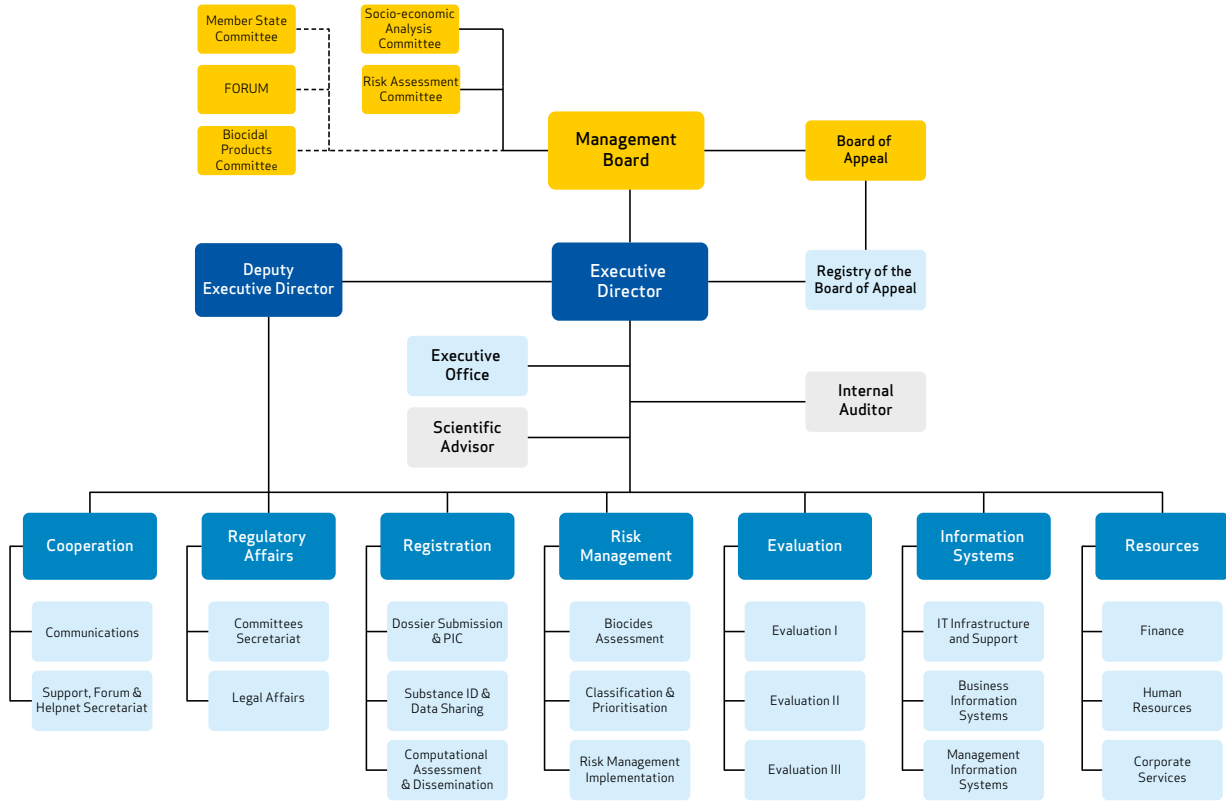
PIC notifications	4 000
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**Other**

Helpdesk, general and media enquiries	7 100
Company size checks	400
Appeals submitted	23

## ORGANISATION CHART AS OF FEBRUARY 2015

- ECHA Bodies
- Unit
- Executive Director
- Staff
- Directorate



## ECHA AT A GLANCE

- Around 600 staff from most EU countries
- 4 scientific committees with experts from 28 EU Member States and 2 EEA States
- 1 Forum of national enforcement authorities
- € 115 million budget for 2015



Work Programme 2015  
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