

SAICM/UCT Chemicals in Products (CiP) Community of Practice

Discussion Forum

Title	Enforcement of products
Date	26th November 2020
Time	14:00 – 15:30 (GMT+2)
Facilitator	Andrea Rother, University of Cape Town
Presenter	Anna Fransson, Keml Stéphane Content, Cefic
Chair	Maxine Brassell, MPH Student, Univ. of Cape Town

NOTE:

- ✓ Since this is a discussion, we encourage you to **prepare** or at least think about the questions prior to joining.
- ✓ **This guide** lays out the background to the questions, presents the questions and provides resources if you should wish to read further on the issue.



- **Details for joining this discussion are below.** To participate in this discussion you will need to have signed up in advance at:
<https://chemicalswithoutconcern.org/community>
- For **technical assistance** on the day of the discussion go to the CiP CoP WhatsApp group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/DVwGix7x04d1Q9b5usaJcr>
- **Connect** with laptops/PCs rather than phones since the discussion is about typi

PRESENTER BIOSKETCH

Anna Fransson



Anna Fransson is a Sr Adviser at the international unit at the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI). She has more than 25 years of experience from working with preventive chemicals control, 10 of them working as an inspector at the Agency. Her current role as an adviser includes support to the Ministry of Environment in Sweden in relation to the Minamata convention and SAICM. She has also worked with capacity building in several countries and regions. Ms Fransson is chair of the steering group to the SAICM CiP programme.

Stéphane Content



Stéphane is graduated in Chemistry and got his PhD in the field of photochemistry in 1998 from the Université Libre de Bruxelles. He also did a post-doctoral stay at University of California San Diego (UCSD) the field of sensors. He worked for the past 11 years at Procter & Gamble in analytical, product design and process development department for liquid detergent development.

Then he joined the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and supported for two years Silicones Europe before joining the Plasticisers sector. For 5 years he is manager of Product Stewardship working on communication in the value chain and the interface between chemical product and waste legislation. Stéphane is also a member of the UNEP CiP Steering committee.

DISCUSSION INTRODUCTION

Enforcement is essential, and without enforcement any law will be ineffective. This also calls for enforcement of legislation regarding chemicals – as substances, mixtures and in articles. Many chemicals are incorporated in finished products, or articles, during the production process. Examples could be painted and lacquered furniture, polymers and metals in electric and electronic products, dyes in textiles, flame retardants and plasticizers in plastic products, etc. Articles may pose a risk due to their chemical contents. In some countries specific substances have been regulated in specific groups of articles, but in general they are to a large extent unregulated with regards to their chemical contents. Examples of articles that have been regulated in the EU are toys and electronics.

The intention of this discussion is for participants to:

- Exchange information on inspection and enforcement experiences regarding chemicals in products
- Discuss existing legislations, regulations and policies that have been undertaken in countries, regions and sectors and opportunities and difficulties in enforcing these
- Share resources and initiatives to support work on inspections and provide suggestions for further needs

QUESTION 1 – Anna Fransson (14:05 GMT+2)

Background: The Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) is a national agency responsible for enforcement of chemical legislations in the EU, such as Reach and Classification Labelling and Packaging (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals). The agency also controls compliance with legislation of chemicals in products with regards to restriction of certain substances and the duty in Reach to provide information on substances of very high concern when present in articles above 0,1%.

The presentation will give some examples on findings and experiences when inspecting chemicals in products and it will reflect on difficulties and opportunities. The intention is to highlight possibilities, ways to organize activities and prioritising among actions.

Question 1:

What actions are undertaken in your country, region or sectors to ensure compliance with relevant legislation?

Are there gaps in existing legislation, regulations or policies to address enforcement of chemicals in products in your country /region / sector?

Resources/Information for the Discussion:

- Enforcement of chemicals in products in Sweden, general information from Kemi: <https://www.kemi.se/en/enforcement>
- ECHA (European Chemicals Agency), Forum Enforcement Projects (EU wide cooperation projects): <https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/who-we-are/enforcement-forum/forum-enforcement-projects>
- Kemi Guidance document “Enforcement of legislation on chemicals placed on the market”: <https://www.kemi.se/en/publications/guidance-on-national-chemicals-control-for-other-countries/enforcement-of-legislation-on-chemicals-placed-on-the-market>
- UNEP Guidance’s on chemicals control contributing to national progress and safety, one guidance is addressing “Enforcement of chemicals control legislation”: <https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/report/guidance-chemicals-control-contributing-national-progress-and-safety>

QUESTION 2 - Stéphane Content (14:40 GMT+2)

Background: ICCA is the International Council of Chemical Associations. Our position is that in addition to controls, to help enforcement, we should improve the communication in the value chain. Several projects are currently on going. We are describing some initiatives from Cefic representing the Chemical Industry in Europe.

Example 1: Proactive Alliance is developing a policy document to produce a global standard for communication in the value chain

Example 2: the project Chemchain is looking at blockchain technology to share information in a protected way

Example 3: the UNEP Steering committee is currently looking at a partnership with Chemreg to have access to a global data base of regulation for chemicals in product.

Question 2:

How can those initiatives contribute to a better enforcement of regulation in the world regarding the presence of substances in articles?

Resources/Information for the Discussion:

- Presentation

- Link to specific web site

Example 1: Proactive Alliance

<https://www.proactive-alliance.info/mission-goals>

Example 2: the project Chemchain

<https://www.chemcha.in/>

Example 3: Chemreg

<https://chemreg.net/>

Instructions for joining this discussion on the set date:

This discussion will be held in **Microsoft (MS) Teams**.

- After joining the CoP, a link to this discussion will be circulated to you via email and sent out as an Outlook calendar invite.
- If your organisation already has MS Teams, you will need to switch from your organisations MS Teams to your University of Cape Town Guest Teams account in the following manner:
 - a. You can do this by going into your MS Teams and navigating to the top right corner of the page to where your profile picture is
 - b. Here you should see the name of your organisation and small arrow indicating a drop-down menu
 - c. Click on this arrow and choose "University of Cape Town"
- Find the email sent to you with the MS Teams link to this discussion.
- Click the link that says, "Join Microsoft Teams Meeting" and you should be taken into the discussion.

If you have not received an email with the link, make sure you are signed up for the Chemicals in Products Community of Practice or send an email to: uctcops@outlook.com

Format of how the discussion will operate:

- To participate in this discussion, sign up at: <https://chemicalswithoutconcern.org/community>
- Should you require assistance or have questions, contact: uctcops@outlook.com
- ✓ This live discussion will be run in Microsoft Teams in the chat section on the set day. . Members will introduce themselves upon arrival into the chat room.
- ✓ The discussion presenter will briefly present a verbal introduction.
- ✓ Two questions will be posted during the 1 ½ hour discussion for 40 minutes discussion. The presenter/s will address comments in the chat section of Teams and all are encouraged to engage.
- ✓ All are welcome to join the discussion which will be held in English. Feel free to write in another language if you are struggling with English and members will assist where possible.

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