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II

(Information)

INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

COMMISSION

Communication from the Commission on the results of the risk evaluation and the risk reduction strategies for the substances: chromium trioxide, ammonium dichromate, potassium dichromate

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/01)

Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 of 23 March 1993 on the evaluation and control of the risks of existing substances (i) involves the data reporting, priority setting, risk evaluation and, where necessary, development of strategies for limiting the risks of existing substances.

In the framework of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 the following substances have been identified as priority substances for evaluation in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 143/97 (2) concerning the third list of priority substances as foreseen under Regulation (EEC) No 793/93:

- chromium trioxide,
- ammonium dichromate,
- potassium dichromate.

The rapporteur Member State designated pursuant to that Regulation has completed the risk evaluation activities with regard to man and the environment for those substances in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 of 28 June 1994 laying down the principles for the assessment of risks to man and the environment of existing substances (3) and has suggested a strategy for limiting the risks in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 793/93.

The Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment (SCTEE) has been consulted and has issued an opinion with respect to the risk evaluations carried out by the rapporteur. The opinion can be found on the website of the Scientific Committee.

Article 11(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 stipulates that the results of the risk evaluation and the recommended strategy for limiting the risks shall be adopted at Community level and published by the Commission. This Communication, together with the corresponding Commission Recommendation 2008/455/EC (4), provides the results of risk evaluations (5) and strategies for limiting the risks for the above mentioned substances.

The results of the risk evaluation and strategies for limiting the risks provided for in this communication are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee set up pursuant to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 84, 5.4.1993, p. 1.

OJL 25, 28.1.1997, p. 13. OJL 161, 29.6.1994, p. 3.

OJ L 158, 18.6.2008.

The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau: http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

ANNEX

PART 1

CAS No: 1333-82-0

Einecs No: 215-607-8

Molecular formula: CrO₃

Einecs name: Chromium trioxide
IUPAC name: Chromium trioxide
Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (1): O; R9

Carc. Cat. 1; R45 Muta. Cat. 2; R46 Repr. Cat. 3; R62

T+; R26

T; R24/25-48/23

C; R35 R42/43 N; R50-53

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the five related chromium (VI) substances, chromium trioxide, ammonium dichromate, potassium dichromate, sodium chromate and sodium dichromate produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (2).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the five chromium (VI) compounds are mainly used as source materials for other chromium (VI) and chromium (III) compounds, in wood preservatives, in metal treatment products, in wax and vitamin K manufacture, in pigments and catalysts.

Other uses are as oxidants in dyeing of cotton, in photography, and as a corrosion inhibitor in cooling water and in manufacture of activated carbon.

RISK ASSESSMENT

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached for all exposure scenarios because:

- concerns for respiratory tract sensory irritation,
- concerns for eye and skin irritation,
- concerns for acute toxicity as a consequence of short-term peak inhalation exposure,
- concerns for skin sensitisation,
- concerns for occupational asthma,
- concerns for reproductive toxicity (fertility and developmental toxicity) as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure,
- concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

 ⁽¹) The classification of the substance is established by Commission Directive 2004/73/EC of 29 April 2004 adapting to technical progress for the 29th time Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (OJ L 152, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by OJ L 216, 16.6.2004, p. 125).
 (²) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals

^(*) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

The substance has not been sufficiently tested for effects to the respiratory tract and to the kidney as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure to the chromium (VI) compounds, specifically to identify the NOAELs and dose-response characteristics. However, as the substance has been identified as a non-threshold carcinogen, it normally requires control measures that would not be influenced by further information.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

CONSUMERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity as a consequence of dermal exposure arising from handling of dry copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, both for adults and for children exposed via wooden playing structures because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

No formal risk characterisation has been conducted for consumer exposure to wet CCA treated wood. In the UK the supply of wood not fully dried following CCA treatment is prohibited as a condition of approval under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986). Similar controls may already exist in all other Member States. However, if specific controls are not available in each Member State, then there would be concerns for all relevant human health endpoints.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the environment for

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

- 1. is that there is a need for further information and/or testing. This conclusion is reached because of:
 - concerns for effects on the sediment compartment as a consequence of exposure arising from production, pigment
 production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

- toxicity testing on sediment organisms.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting risks for the environment, together with the corresponding Commission Recommendation 2008/455/EC (¹), is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements,

— concerns for non-compartment specific effects as a consequence of indirect exposure of predators through the mussel-based food chain arising from pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment. The information and/or testing requirements are:

further investigation of the uptake of chromium into organisms other than fish, characterisation of the nature of the chromium in organisms and consideration of the toxicity of chromium in other forms to organisms consuming prey containing chromium.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment, together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/455/EC, is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:
 - concerns for effects on the aquatic and terrestrial environment as a consequence of exposure arising from production (aquatic only, one site), pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treat-

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

concerns for effects on the functioning of waste water treatment plants due to pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment.

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

For WORKERS

The legislation for workers' protection currently in force at Community level, particularly Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (1) (the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive), is generally considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks of the substances to the extent needed and shall apply.

Within this framework it is recommended:

- to establish at Community level occupational exposure limit values for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC (2) or Directive 2004/37/EC as appropriate,
- to establish at Community level a biological limit value for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC (2).

For CONSUMERS and HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

The existing legislative measures for consumer protection and humans exposed via the environment, in particular the provisions of Council Directive 98/8/EC (the Biocidal Products Directive), and the provisions under Council Directive 76/769/EEC (3) as regards substances carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic for reproduction (CMR), are considered sufficient to address the identified risks to consumers.

For ENVIRONMENT

It is recommended:

- to consider including chromium in the revision of the list of priority substances under the Water Framework Directive (Annex X of Directive 2000/60/EC (4)),
- to consider including limits on the contents of chromium (VI) in sewage sludge and in soils as well as a limit on the annual load in the Directive 86/278/EEC (5) on Sewage Sludge,
- to facilitate permitting and monitoring under Directive 2008/1/EC (6) chromium (VI) substances should be included in the ongoing work to develop guidance on 'Best Available Techniques' (BAT).

The legislation currently in force at Community level for biocides (Directive 98/8/EC (7)) is considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks associated with the use of wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds and the risks associated with the use of wood treated domestically with wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds.

^(*) OJL 158, 30.4.2004, p. 50. (*) OJL 131, 5.5.1998, p. 11. (*) OJL 262, 27.9.1976, p. 201. (*) OJL 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJL 191, 15.7.1986, p. 23.

OJ L 24, 29.1.2008, p. 8.

^{(&}lt;sup>7</sup>) OJ L 123, 24.4.1998, p. 1.

PART 2

CAS No: 7789-09-5

Einecs No: 232-143-1

Molecular formula: $(NH_4)_2Cr_2O_7$

Einecs name: Ammonium dichromate

IUPAC name: Ammonium dichromate

Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (1): E; R2

Carc. Cat. 2; R45 Muta. Cat. 2; R46 Repr. Cat. 2; R60-61

T+; R26 T; R25-48/23 C; R34 Xn; R21 R42/43 N; R50-53

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the five related chromium (VI) substances, chromium trioxide, ammonium dichromate, potassium dichromate, sodium chromate and sodium dichromate, produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (2).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the five chromium (VI) compounds are mainly used as source materials for other chromium (VI) and chromium (III) compounds, in wood preservatives, in metal treatments, in wax and vitamin K manufacture, in pigments and catalysts.

Other uses are as oxidants in dyeing of cotton, in photography, and as a corrosion inhibitor in cooling water and in manufacture of activated carbon.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached for all exposure scenarios because of:

- concerns for respiratory tract sensory irritation,
- concerns for eye and skin irritation,
- concerns for acute toxicity as a consequence of short-term peak inhalation exposure,
- concerns for skin sensitisation,
- concerns for occupational asthma,
- concerns for reproductive toxicity (fertility and developmental toxicity) as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure,
- concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

 ⁽¹) The classification of the substance is established by Commission Directive 2004/73/EC of 29 April 2004 adapting to technical progress for the 29th time Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (OJ L 152, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by OJ L 216, 16.6.2004, p. 125).
 (²) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals

^(*) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemical Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

The substance has not been sufficiently tested for effects to the respiratory tract and to the kidney as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure to the chromium (VI) compounds, specifically to identify the NOAELs and dose-response characteristics. However, as the substance has been identified as a non-threshold carcinogen, it normally requires control measures that would not be influenced by further information.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

CONSUMERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

— concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity as a consequence of dermal exposure arising from handling of dry copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, both for adults and for children exposed via wooden playing structures because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

No formal risk characterisation has been conducted for consumer exposure to wet CCA treated wood. In the UK the supply of wood not fully dried following CCA treatment is prohibited as a condition of approval under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986). Similar controls may already exist in all other Member States. However, if specific controls are not available in each Member State, then there would be concerns for all relevant human health endpoints.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the environment for

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

- 1. is that there is a need for further information and/or testing. This conclusion is reached because of:
 - concerns for effects on the sediment compartment as a consequence of exposure arising from production, pigment
 production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

— toxicity testing on sediment organisms.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting risks for the environment together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/455/EC (¹), is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements,

— concerns for non-compartment specific effects as a consequence of indirect exposure of predators through the mussel-based food chain arising from pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment. The information and/or testing requirements are:

— further investigation of the uptake of chromium into organisms other than fish, characterisation of the nature of the chromium in organisms and consideration of the toxicity of chromium in other forms to organisms consuming prey containing chromium.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/455/EC, is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:
 - concerns for effects on the aquatic and terrestrial environment as a consequence of exposure arising from production (aquatic only, one site), pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

concerns for effects on the functioning of waste water treatment plants due to pigment production, chromium oxide
production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal
treatment.

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

For WORKERS

The legislation for workers' protection currently in force at Community level, particularly Directive 2004/37/EC (the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive), is generally considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks of the substances to the extent needed and shall apply.

Within this framework it is recommended:

- to establish at Community level occupational exposure limit values for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC or Directive 2004/37/EC as appropriate,
- to establish at Community level a biological limit value for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC.

For CONSUMERS and HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

The existing legislative measures for consumer protection and humans exposed via the environment, in particular the provisions of Directive 98/8/EC (the Biocidal Products Directive), and the provisions under Directive 76/769/EEC as regards CMR substances, are considered sufficient to address the identified risks to consumers.

For ENVIRONMENT

It is recommended:

- to consider including of the chromium (VI) compounds in the revision of the list of priority substances under the Water Framework Directive (Annex X of Directive 2000/60/EC),
- to consider including limits on the contents of chromium (VI) compounds in sewage sludge and in soils as well as a limit on the annual load in the Directive 86/278/EEC on Sewage Sludge,
- to facilitate permitting and monitoring under Directive 2008/1/EC chromium (VI) substances should be included in the ongoing work to develop guidance on 'Best Available Techniques' (BAT).

The legislation currently in force at Community level for biocides (Directive 98/8/EC (¹)) is considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks associated with the use of wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds and the risks associated with the use of wood treated domestically with wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds.

PART 3

CAS No: 7778-50-9

Einecs No: 231-906-6

Molecular formula: K₂Cr₂O₇

Einecs name: Potassium dichromate

IUPAC name: Potassium dichromate

Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (1): O; R8

Carc. Cat. 2; R45 Muta. Cat. 2; R46 Repr. Cat. 2; R60-61

T+; R26 T; R25-48/23 C; R34 Xn; R21 R42/43 N; R50-53

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the five related chromium (VI) substances, chromium trioxide, ammonium dichromate, potassium dichromate, sodium chromate and sodium dichromate, produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (2).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the five chromium (VI) compounds are mainly used as source materials for other chromium (VI) and chromium (III) compounds, in wood preservatives, in metal treatments, in wax and vitamin K manufacture, in pigments and catalysts.

Other uses are as oxidants in dyeing of cotton, in photography, and as a corrosion inhibitor in cooling water and in manufacture of activated carbon.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached for all exposure scenarios because:

- concerns for respiratory tract sensory irritation,
- concerns for eye and skin irritation,
- concerns for acute toxicity as a consequence of short-term peak inhalation exposure,
- concerns for skin sensitisation,
- concerns for occupational asthma,
- concerns for reproductive toxicity (fertility and developmental toxicity) as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure,
- concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

 ⁽¹) The classification of the substance is established by Commission Directive 2004/73/EC of 29 April 2004 adapting to technical progress for the 29th time Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (OJ L 152, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by OJ L 216, 16.6.2004, p. 125).
 (²) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals

^(*) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

The substance has not been sufficiently tested for effects to the respiratory tract and to the kidney as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure to chromium (VI) compounds, specifically to identify the NOAELs and dose-response characteristics. However, as the substance has been identified as a non-threshold carcinogen, it normally requires control measures that would not be influenced by further information.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

CONSUMERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

— concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity as a consequence of dermal exposure arising from handling of dry copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, both for adults and for children exposed via wooden playing structures because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

No formal risk characterisation has been conducted for consumer exposure to wet CCA treated wood. In the UK the supply of wood not fully dried following CCA treatment is prohibited as a condition of approval under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986). Similar controls may already exist in all other Member States. However, if specific controls are not available in each Member State, then there would be concerns for all relevant human health endpoints.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the environment for

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

- 1. is that there is a need for further information and/or testing. This conclusion is reached because of:
 - concerns for effects on the sediment compartment as a consequence of exposure arising from production, pigment
 production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

— toxicity testing on sediment organisms.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting risks for the environment together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/455/EC (¹), is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements,

— concerns for non-compartment specific effects as a consequence of indirect exposure of predators through the mussel-based food chain arising from pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment. The information and/or testing requirements are:

— further investigation of the uptake of chromium into organisms other than fish, characterisation of the nature of the chromium in organisms and consideration of the toxicity of chromium in other forms to organisms consuming prey containing chromium.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/455/EC, is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:
 - concerns for effects on the aquatic and terrestrial environment as a consequence of exposure arising from production (aquatic only, one site), pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

concerns for effects on the functioning of waste water treatment plants due to pigment production, chromium oxide
production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation and metal
treatment.

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

For WORKERS

The legislation for workers' protection currently in force at Community level, particularly Directive 2004/37/EC (the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive), is generally considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks of the substances to the extent needed and shall apply.

Within this framework it is recommended:

- to establish at Community level occupational exposure limit values for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC or Directive 2004/37/EC as appropriate,
- to establish at Community level a biological limit value for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC.

For CONSUMERS and HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

The existing legislative measures for consumer protection and humans exposed via the environment, in particular the provisions of Directive 98/8/EC (the Biocidal Products Directive), and the provisions under Directive 76/769/EEC as regards CMR substances, are considered sufficient to address the identified risks to consumers.

For ENVIRONMENT

It is recommended:

- to consider including chromium (VI) compounds in the revision of the list of priority substances under the Water Framework Directive (Annex X of Directive 2000/60/EC),
- to consider including limits on the contents of chromium (VI) compounds in sewage sludge and in soils as well as a limit on the annual load in the Directive 86/278/EEC on Sewage Sludge,
- to facilitate permitting and monitoring under Directive 2008/1/EC chromium (VI) compounds should be included in the ongoing work to develop guidance on 'Best Available Techniques' (BAT).

The legislation currently in force at Community level for biocides (Directive 98/8/EC (¹)) is considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks associated with the use of wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds and the risks associated with the use of wood treated domestically with wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) compounds.

Communication from the Commission on the results of the risk evaluation and the risk reduction strategies for the substances: sodium chromate, sodium dichromate and 2,2',6,6'-tetrabromo-4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (tetrabromobisphenol A)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/02)

Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 of 23 March 1993 on the evaluation and control of the risks of existing substances (1) involves the data reporting, priority setting, risk evaluation and, where necessary, development of strategies for limiting the risks of existing substances.

In the framework of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 the following substances have been identified as priority substances for evaluation in accordance with Commission Regulations (EC) No 143/97 (2) and (EC) No 2364/2000 (3) respectively concerning the third and fourth list of priority substances as foreseen under Regulation (EEC) No 793/93:

- sodium chromate,
- sodium dichromate,
- 2,2',6,6'-tetrabromo-4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (tetrabromobisphenol A).

The rapporteur Member States designated pursuant to those Regulations have completed the risk evaluation activities with regard to man and the environment for those substances in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 of 28 June 1994 laying down the principles for the assessment of risks to man and the environment of existing substances (4) and have suggested a strategy for limiting the risks in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 793/93.

The Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment (SCTEE) and the Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks (SCHER) have been consulted and have issued an opinion with respect to the risk evaluations carried out by the rapporteurs. These opinions can be found on the website of the Scientific Committees.

Article 11(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 stipulates that the results of the risk evaluation and the recommended strategy for limiting the risks shall be adopted at Community level and published by the Commission. This Communication, together with the corresponding Commission Recommendation 2008/454/EC (5), provides the results of risk evaluations (6) and strategies for limiting the risks for the above mentioned substances.

The results of the risk evaluation and strategies for limiting the risks provided for in this communication are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee set up pursuant to Article 15(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 793/93.

OJL 84, 5.4.1993, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 25, 28.1.1997, p. 13.

⁽³⁾ OJL 237, 25.10.2000, p. 5. (4) OJL 161, 29.6.1994, p. 3.

OJ L 158, 18.6.2008.

The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau: http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

ANNEX

PART 1

CAS No: 7775-11-3

Einecs No: 231-889-5

Molecular formula: Na₂CrO₄

Einecs name: Sodium chromate

IUPAC name: Sodium chromate

Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (¹): Carc. Cat. 2; R45

Muta. Cat. 2; R46 Repr. Cat. 2; R60-61

T+; R26 T; R25-48/23 C; R34 Xn; R21 R42/43 N; R50-53

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the five related chromium (VI) substances produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (2).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the five chromium (VI) compounds are mainly used as source materials for other chromium (VI) and chromium (III) compounds, in wood preservatives, in metal treatment products, in wax and vitamin K manufacture, in pigments and catalysts.

Other uses are as oxidants in dyeing of cotton, in photography, and as a corrosion inhibitor in cooling water and in manufacture of activated carbon.

RISK ASSESSMENT:

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached for all exposure scenarios because of:

- concerns for respiratory tract sensory irritation,
- concerns for eye and skin irritation,
- concerns for acute toxicity as a consequence of short-term peak inhalation exposure,
- concerns for skin sensitisation,
- concerns for occupational asthma,
- concerns for reproductive toxicity (fertility and developmental toxicity) as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure,
- concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

 ⁽¹) The classification of the substance is established by Commission Directive 2004/73/EC of 29 April 2004 adapting to technical progress for the 29th time Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (OJ L 152, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by OJ L 216, 16.6.2004, p. 125).
 (²) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals

⁽²⁾ The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemical Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

The substance has not been sufficiently tested for effects to the respiratory tract and to the kidney as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure to the chromium (VI) compounds, specifically to identify the NOAELs and dose-response characteristics. However, as the substance has been identified as a non-threshold carcinogen, it normally requires control measures that would not be influenced by further information.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

CONSUMERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity as a consequence of dermal exposure arising from handling of dry copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, both for adults and for children exposed via wooden playing structures because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

No formal risk characterisation has been conducted for consumer exposure to wet CCA treated wood. In the UK the supply of wood not fully dried following CCA treatment is prohibited as a condition of approval under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986). Similar controls may already exist in all other Member States. However, if specific controls are not available in each Member State, then there would be concerns for all relevant human health endpoints.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

— the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 — the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the environment for

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

- 1. is that there is a need for further information and/or testing. This conclusion is reached because:
 - concerns for effects on the sediment compartment as a consequence of exposure arising from production, pigment
 production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

— toxicity testing on sediment organisms.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting risks for the environment in, together with the corresponding Commission Recommendation 2008/454/EC (¹), is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements.

— concerns for non-compartment specific effects as a consequence of indirect exposure of predators through the mussel-based food chain arising from pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

— further investigation of the uptake of chromium into organisms other than fish, characterisation of the nature of the chromium in organisms and consideration of the toxicity of chromium in other forms to organisms consuming prey containing chromium.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment in Section II, together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/454/EC, is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:
 - concerns for effects on the aquatic and terrestrial environment as a consequence of exposure arising from production (aquatic only, 1 site), pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

concerns for effects on the functioning of waste water treatment plants due to pigment production, chromium oxide
production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and
metal treatment.

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

For WORKERS

The legislation for workers' protection currently in force at Community level, particularly Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (²) (the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive), is generally considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks of the substances to the extent needed and shall apply.

Within this framework it is recommended:

- to establish at Community level occupational exposure limit values for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC (3) or Directive 2004/37/EC as appropriate,
- to establish at Community level a biological limit value for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC.

For CONSUMERS and HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

— the existing legislative measures for consumer protection and humans exposed via the environment, in particular the provisions of Council Directive 98/8/EC (the Biocidal Products Directive), and the provisions under Council Directive 76/769/EEC as regards CMR substances, are considered sufficient to address the identified risks to consumers.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 158, 18.6.2008.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 50.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 131, 5.5.1998, p. 11.

For ENVIRONMENT

- it is recommended that the Commission considers the merit of including chromium in the revision of the list of priority substances under the Water Framework Directive (Annex X of Directive 2000/60/EC),
- with particular regard to the on-site reduction of Cr (VI) compounds to Cr (III) tanning salts by plants involved in the tanning of hides and skins, it is recommended that in the next amendment of the BAT reference document for plants involved in the tanning of hides and skins, appropriate references are included to indicate that the on-site reduction of Cr (VI) substances for the production of Cr (III) tanning salts should not be considered as BAT,
- it is recommended that the Commission considers the need to include limits on the contents of chromium (VI) in sewage sludge and in soils as well as a limit on the annual load in the Directive 86/278/EEC on Sewage Sludge,
- the legislation currently in force at Community level for biocides (Directive 98/8/EC) is considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks associated with the use of wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) substances and the risks associated with the use of wood treated domestically with wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) substances.

PART 2

CAS No: 10588-01-9

Einecs No: 234-190-3

Molecular formula: Na₂Cr₂O₇

Einecs name: Sodium dichromate

IUPAC name: Sodium dichromate

Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (1): O; R8

Carc. Cat. 2; R45 Muta. Cat. 2; R46 Repr. Cat. 2; R60-61

T+; R26 T; R25-48/23 C; R34 Xn; R21 R42/43 N; R50-53

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the five related chromium (VI) substances produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (2).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the five chromium (VI) compounds are mainly used as source materials for other chromium (VI) and chromium (III) compounds, in wood preservatives, in metal treatments, in wax and vitamin K manufacture, in pigments and catalysts.

Other uses are as oxidants in dyeing of cotton, in photography, and as a corrosion inhibitor in cooling water and in manufacture of activated carbon.

⁽¹) The classification of the substance is established by Commission Directive 2004/73/EC of 29 April 2004 adapting to technical progress for the 29th time Council Directive 67/548/EEC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (OJ L 152, 30.4.2004, p. 1, amended by OJ L 216, 16.6.2004, p. 125).

⁽²⁾ The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

RISK ASSESSMENT

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached for all exposure scenarios because of:

- concerns for respiratory tract sensory irritation,
- concerns for eye and skin irritation,
- concerns for acute toxicity as a consequence of short-term peak inhalation exposure,
- concerns for skin sensitisation,
- concerns for occupational asthma,
- concerns for reproductive toxicity (fertility and developmental toxicity) as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure,
- concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

The substance has not been sufficiently tested for effects to the respiratory tract and to the kidney as a consequence of repeated inhalation exposure to the chromium (VI) compounds, specifically to identify the NOAELs and dose-response characteristics. However, as the substance has been identified as a non-threshold carcinogen, it normally requires control measures that would not be influenced by further information.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

CONSUMERS

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because of:

— concerns for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity as a consequence of dermal exposure arising from handling of dry copper chrome arsenate (CCA)-treated wood, both for adults and for children exposed via wooden playing structures because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

No formal risk characterisation has been conducted for consumer exposure to wet CCA treated wood. In the UK the supply of wood not fully dried following CCA treatment is prohibited as a condition of approval under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986). Similar controls may already exist in all other Member States. However, if specific controls are not available in each Member State, then there would be concerns for all relevant human health endpoints.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

— for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity because no threshold below which there would be no risk to human health can be identified for these endpoints. However, the risk assessment indicates that risks are already low. This should be taken into account when considering the adequacy of existing controls and the feasibility and practicability of further specific risk reduction measures.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the environment for

AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

- 1. is that there is a need for further information and/or testing. This conclusion is reached because:
 - concerns for effects on the sediment compartment as a consequence of exposure arising from production, pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

- toxicity testing on sediment organisms.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting risks for the environment in Section II, together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/454/EC (¹), is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements,

— concerns for non-compartment specific effects as a consequence of indirect exposure of predators through the mussel-based food chain arising from pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The information and/or testing requirements are:

— further investigation of the uptake of chromium into organisms other than fish, characterisation of the nature of the chromium in organisms and consideration of the toxicity of chromium in other forms to organisms consuming prey containing chromium.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment in Section II, together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/454/EC, is expected to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:
 - concerns for effects on the aquatic and terrestrial environment as a consequence of exposure arising from production (aquatic only, 1 site), pigment production, chromium oxide production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, wood preservative applications, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and metal treatment.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:

concerns for effects on the functioning of waste water treatment plants due to pigment production, chromium oxide
production, tanning salts, wood preservative formulation, treated wood in use, metal treatment formulation, and
metal treatment.

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

For WORKERS

The legislation for workers' protection currently in force at Community level, particularly Directive 2004/37/EC (2) (the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive), is generally considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks of the substances to the extent needed and shall apply.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 158, 18.6.2008.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 50.

Within this framework it is recommended:

- to establish at Community level occupational exposure limit values for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC (¹) or Directive 2004/37/EC as appropriate,
- to establish at Community level a biological limit value for chromium (VI) compounds according to Directive 98/24/EC.

For CONSUMERS and HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

— the existing legislative measures for consumer protection and humans exposed via the environment, in particular the provisions of Directive 98/8/EC (the Biocidal Products Directive), and the provisions under Directive 76/769/EEC as regards CMR substances, are considered sufficient to address the identified risks to consumers.

For ENVIRONMENT

- it is recommended that the Commission considers the merit of including chromium in the revision of the list of priority substances under the Water Framework Directive (Annex X of Directive 2000/60/EC),
- with particular regard to the on-site reduction of Cr (VI) compounds to Cr (III) tanning salts by plants involved in the tanning of hides and skins, it is recommended that in the next amendment of the BAT reference document for plants involved in the tanning of hides and skins, appropriate references are included to indicate that the on-site reduction of Cr (VI) substances for the production of Cr (III) tanning salts should not be considered as BAT,
- it is recommended that the Commission considers the need to include limits on the contents of chromium (VI) in sewage sludge and in soils as well as a limit on the annual load in the Directive 86/278/EEC on Sewage Sludge,
- the legislation currently in force at Community level for biocides (Directive 98/8/EC) is considered to give an adequate framework to limit the risks associated with the use of wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) substances and the risks associated with the use of wood treated domestically with wood preservatives that contain chromium (VI) substances.

PART 3

CAS No: 79-94-7

Einecs No: 201-236-9

Structural formula:

Einecs name: 2,2',6,6'-tetrabromo-4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (tetrabromobisphenol A)

IUPAC name: 2,2',6,6'-tetrabromo-4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol

Rapporteur: United Kingdom

Classification (2): None

The risk assessment is based on current practices related to the life-cycle of the substance produced in or imported into the European Community as described in the risk assessment forwarded to the Commission by the Member State Rapporteur (3).

The risk assessment has, based on the available information, determined that in the European Community the substance is mainly used as a reactive and additive flame retardant in plastics. The main uses as a reactive flame retardant (chemically bonded into the polymeric material) are in epoxy and polycarbonate resins. The main uses as an additive flame retardant are in acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) resins.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 131, 5.5.1998, p. 11.

⁽²⁾ This chemical substance is currently not included in the Annex I of Directive 67/548/EEC.

⁽f) The comprehensive Risk Assessment Report, as well as a summary thereof, can be found on the Internet site of the European Chemicals Bureau:

http://ecb.jrc.it/existing-substances/

RISK ASSESSMENT

A. Human health

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

WORKERS, CONSUMERS AND HUMANS EXPOSED VIA THE ENVIRONMENT

is that there is at present no need for further information and testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

— the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

HUMAN HEALTH (physico-chemical properties)

is that there is at present no need for further information and testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

— the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

B. Environment

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

ATMOSPHERE

is that there is at present no need for further information or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

 the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to the

AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM

1. is that there is a need for further information and testing.

This conclusion is reached because:

- it is possible that TBBPA may be degraded to bisphenol-A in anaerobic freshwater and marine sediments. This
 conclusions should be reconsidered once future aquatic effects data has been generated and the corresponding
 PNECs for bisphenol-A are determined,
- another possible metabolite/degradation product tetrabromobisphenol-A bis(methyl ether) possibly meets the screening criteria for a PBT substance. Although the results from present studies are inconclusive, it is suggested that it is a very minor degradation product. Given that a need for risk reduction measures has already been identified for some uses (which should reduce the environmental burden of the parent compound), no further specific work is recommended to address this issue at the present time,
- the risk characterisation ratios for the marine environment indicate a possible risk from some applications. The need for further toxicity data with marine organisms should be evaluated once the implications of any risk reduction activities resulting from the assessment for fresh water and freshwater sediment are known.

However, the implementation of the strategy for limiting the risks for the environment in Section II, together with the corresponding Recommendation 2008/454/EC (1), is expected to sufficiently reduce the concentrations in the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem and to eliminate the need for further information requirements;

- 2. that there is a need for specific measures to limit the risks. This conclusion is reached because:
 - the PEC/PNEC is > 1 for surface water and sediment at compounding sites where TBBPA is used as an additive flame retardant in ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resins),

— the PEC/PNEC is > 1 for the terrestrial compartment, where TBBPA is used as an additive flame retardant in ABS from compounding and conversion sites. The conclusion for conversion sites is dependent on whether or not sewage sludge from the site is applied to agricultural land (no risk is identified where sewage sludge is not applied to land). For ABS compounding sites a risk is identified regardless of the assumptions made over the spreading of sewage sludge.

The conclusion of the assessment of the risks to

MICRO-ORGANISMS IN THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

is that there is at present no need for further information and/or testing or for risk reduction measures beyond those which are being applied. This conclusion is reached because:

— the risk assessment shows that risks are not expected. Risk reduction measures already being applied are considered sufficient

STRATEGY FOR LIMITING RISKS

The results of the strategy for limiting the risks are set out in the corresponding Recommendation 2008/454/EC.

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/03)

Date of adoption of the decision	30.4.2008
Reference number of the aid	N 495/07
Member State	Czech Republic
Region	National aid scheme
Title (and/or name of the beneficiary)	Program pořízení a obnovy železničních kolejových vozidel
Legal basis	Zákon č. 266/1994 Sb., o drahách, ve znění pozdějších předpisů. Zákon č. 218/2000 Sb., o rozpočtových pravidlech a o změně některých souvisejících zákonů, ve znění pozdějších předpisů. Zákon č. 586/1992 Sb., o daních z příjmů, ve znění pozdějších předpisů
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Objective	Sectoral development
Form of aid	Direct grant
Budget	CZK 4 800 million (EUR 173,09 million)
Intensity	Maximum of 50 % for the purchase of a new vehicle, maximum of 30 % for modernisation of a vehicle
Duration	2008-12.2013
Economic sectors	Rail transport
Name and address of the granting authority	Ministerstvo dopravy nábřeží Ludvíka Svobody 12/222 CZ-110 15 Praha 1
Other information	_

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/community_law/state_aids/

IV

(Notices)

NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates (¹) 17 June 2008

(2008/C 152/04)

1 euro =

	Currency	Exchange rate		Currency	Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,5477	TRY	Turkish lira	1,9034
JPY	Japanese yen	167,59	AUD	Australian dollar	1,6472
DKK	Danish krone	7,4584	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,5816
GBP	Pound sterling	0,79440	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	12,0855
SEK	Swedish krona	9,3581	NZD	New Zealand dollar	2,0533
CHF	Swiss franc	1,6169	SGD	Singapore dollar	2,1192
ISK	Iceland króna	123,74	KRW	South Korean won	1 579,43
NOK	Norwegian krone	8,0235	ZAR	South African rand	12,4059
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	10,6660
CZK	Czech koruna	24,194	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,2442
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	14 398,25
HUF	Hungarian forint	246,34	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	5,0200
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4528	PHP	Philippine peso	68,199
LVL	Latvian lats	0,7058	RUB	Russian rouble	36,6360
PLN	Polish zloty	3,3821	THB	Thai baht	51,376
RON	Romanian leu	3,6600	BRL	Brazilian real	2,5062
SKK	Slovak koruna	30,310	MXN	Mexican peso	15,9415

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

Information communicated by Member States regarding State aid granted under Commission Regulation (EC) No 1628/2006 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to national regional investment aid

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/05)

Aid No	XR 153/07
Member State	Spain
Region	Principado de Asturias
Title of aid scheme or the name of the undertaking receiving <i>ad hoc</i> aid supplement	Ayudas a proyectos de inversión empresarial en el Principado de Asturias
Legal basis	Ley nº 38/2003 de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones (BOE de 18.11.2003) Real Decreto nº 887/2006, de 21 de julio, por el que se aprueba el Reglamento de la Ley nº 38/2003, de 17 de noviembre, General de Subvenciones Programa Operativo FEDER del Principado de Asturias, 2007-2013 Bases reguladoras del programa de ayudas a proyectos de inversión empresarial en el Principado de Asturias
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Annual budget	EUR 6 million
Maximum aid intensity	30 %
	In conformity with Article 4 of the Regulation
Date of implementation	12.6.2007
Duration	31.12.2013
Economic sectors	Limited to specific sectors
	NACE: D, H, 72
Name and address of the granting authority	Instituto de desarrollo económico del Principado de Asturias, IDEPA Parque tecnológico de Asturias E-33420 Llanera — Principado de Asturias
Internet address of the publication of the aid scheme	http://www.idepa.es/sites/export/sites/default/idepaweb/Repositorios/galeria_descargas_idepa/BASES_PIE.pd
Other information	_



Aid No	XR 156/07
Member State	Germany
Region	Brandenburg-Nordost, Brandenburg-Südwest, Chemnitz, Dessau, Dresden, Halle, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Thüringen, Regionalfördergebiet Berlin (art. 87(3) lit. c EGV)
Title of aid scheme or the name of the undertaking receiving <i>ad hoc</i> aid supplement	Bundesbürgschaften unter Einbindung paralleler Landesbürgschaften für Investitionskredite in den Ratingkategorien 1 bis 5 entprechend der genehmigten Berechnungsmethode vom 25.9.2007 (N 197/2007) zugunsten von Vorhaben in den neuen Bundesländern und im Regionalfördergebiet Berlin (N 459/2006)
Legal basis	Bund: Jährliches Bundeshaushaltsgesetz, Bundeshaushaltsplan und Bundeshaushaltsordnung; Berlin, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Thüringen: Landeshaushaltsgesetz, Landeshaushaltsordnung, Landeshaushaltsplan
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Annual budget	EUR 20 million
Maximum aid intensity	30 %
	In conformity with Article 4 of the Regulation
Date of implementation	26.9.2007
Duration	31.12.2013
Economic sectors	All sectors eligible for regional investment aid
Name and address of the granting authority	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie Scharnhorststr. 34-37 D-10115 Berlin Tel. 03018 615 6835 siebeke@bmwi.bund.de Ministerium der Finanzen des Landes Brandenburg Steinstraße 104-106
	D-14480 Potsdam Finanzministerium des Landes Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Schloßstr. 9-11 D-19053 Schwerin
	Sächsisches Staatsministerium der Finanzen Carolaplatz 1 D-01097 Dresden
	Ministerium der Finanzen des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt Editharing 40 D-39108 Magdeburg
	Thüringer Finanzministerium Ludwig-Erhard-Ring 7 D-99099 Erfurt
Internet address of the publication of the aid scheme	http://www.foerderdatenbank.de/jump/?8184
Other information	
Aid No	XR 157/07
Member State	Germany
Region	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
-	<u> </u>



Title of aid scheme or the name of the undertaking receiving <i>ad hoc</i> aid supplement	"Richtlinien für die Übernahme von Bürgschaften des Landes Mecklenburg- Vorpommern — Bürgschaftsrichtlinien — Erlass der Finanzministerin vom 25. Januar 1993 — IV 420 b" — (N 627/1991) (Bürgschaften für Investition- skredite in den Ratingkategorien 1 bis 5 entsprechend der genehmigten Methode zur Berechnung der Beihilfeintensität von Bürgschaften vom 25.9.2007, N 197/2007)
Legal basis	Haushaltsgesetz, Landeshaushaltsordnung und dazu erlassene Verwaltungsvorschriften des Landes Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Type of measure	Aid scheme
Annual budget	EUR 15 million
Maximum aid intensity	30 %
	In conformity with Article 4 of the Regulation
Date of implementation	26.9.2007
Duration	31.12.2013
Economic sectors	All sectors eligible for regional investment aid
Name and address of the granting authority	Finanzministerium des Landes Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Schloßstr. 9-11 D-19053 Schwerin Tel.: (0385) 588-4450 ursula.claaßen@fm.mv-regierung.de Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Arbeit und Tourismus Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Johannes-Stelling-Str. 14 D-19053 Schwerin
Internet address of the publication of the aid scheme	http://www.regierung-mv.de/cms2/Regierungsportal_prod/Regierungsportal/de/fm/Themen/Buergschaften/index.jsp
Other information	_

V

(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

COMMISSION

Call for proposals under the Annual Implementation Plan 2008 of the IMI Joint Undertaking

(2008/C 152/06)

Notice is hereby given of the launch of a call for proposals under the Annual Implementation Plan 2008 of the IMI Joint Undertaking.

Proposals are invited for the following call:

IMI_Call_2008_1.

Call documentation including deadline and budget is given in the call text, which is published on the following website:

http://imi.europa.eu

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPETITION POLICY

COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration (Case COMP/M.5010 — Berkshire Hathaway/Munich Re/GAUM)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/07)

- 1. On 9 June 2008, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (¹) by which the undertaking Northern States Agency, Inc. ('Northern States', USA) controlled by Berkshire Hathaway Inc. ('Berkshire Hathaway', USA) and the undertaking Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG ('Munich Re', Germany) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking Global Aerospace Underwriting Managers Limited ('GAUM', United Kingdom) by way of purchase of shares.
- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
- for the undertaking Berkshire Hathaway: holding company owning subsidiaries engaged mainly in property and casualty insurance business conducted on both a direct and reinsurance basis,
- for the undertaking Munich Re: professional reinsurer and holding company for companies active in supply of reinsurance and direct insurance services and in asset management,
- for the undertaking GAUM: transaction, as agent, of aerospace insurance and the provision of management services to aerospace insurance operations.
- 3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.
- 4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax ((32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.5010 — Berkshire Hathaway/Munich Re/GAUM, to the following address:

European Commission Directorate-General for Competition Merger Registry J-70 B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

Prior notification of a concentration (Case COMP/M.5209 — DuPont/Danisco) Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2008/C 152/08)

- 1. On 10 June 2008, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (¹) by which the undertakings E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company ('DuPont', USA) and Danisco U.S., Inc. ('Danisco', USA) which is controlled by Danisco A/S (Denmark) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Council Regulation joint control of the undertaking DuPont Danisco Cellulosic Ethanol LLC ('DDCE', USA) by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.
- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
- for DuPont: production of chemical products, agro-chemicals and other materials,
- for Danisco: production of a broad range of food ingredients,
- for DDCE: development and commercialisation of technology packages for the manufacture of cellulosic ethanol.
- 3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. However, the final decision on this point is reserved. Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 (²) it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.
- 4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax ((32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference number COMP/M.5209 — DuPont/Danisco, to the following address:

European Commission Directorate-General for Competition Merger Registry J-70 B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.

CORRIGENDA

Corrigendum to the invitation to tender issued by Portugal under Article 4(1)(d) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 in respect of the operation of scheduled air services for the route Lisbon-Vila Real-Bragança-Vila Real-Lisbon — P-Lisbon: Operation of scheduled air services

(Official Journal of the European Union C 143 of 10 June 2008)

(2008/C 152/09)

On page 20, at the end of points 2 and 7:

for: '... published in the Official Journal of the European Union.',

read: '... published in the Official Journal of the European Union C 143 of 10 June 2008.'.

NOTICE

On 18 June 2008, in *Official Journal of the European Union* C 152 A, the 'Common catalogue of varieties of vegetable species — Fifth supplement to the 26th complete edition' will be published.

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