



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT

The Director-General

Brussels,  
ENV.B2/EM/il

**NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF**

**MR BJORN HANSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ECHA**

**MS EMER COOKE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EMA**

**MR BERNHARD URL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EFSA**

**MR HANS BRUYNINCKX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EEA**

**Subject: Implementation of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability**

I would like to thank you and your services for the good collaboration during the preparation of the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, which was adopted on 14 October. I believe that this is a very important milestone for the future of the EU chemicals policy and for moving towards the zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment.

The Strategy is, however, only the starting point of the process. We need now to start swift implementation, and to keep up the expectations for what we have committed to deliver.

Given the complexity of the implementation – which spans across services and legislation - and the importance to coordinate duly internally while reaching out externally, we propose to ensure the overall internal coordination on the implementation of the Strategy through an Inter Service Group, which shall meet at the relevant frequency and level depending on needs and for which we propose that EU agencies are also involved. External communication and involvement of stakeholders will also be coordinated through the announced High-level Roundtable.

We have done a first screening of the actions announced in the Strategy, and made an initial draft mapping of how the implementation of our actions could be organised, including where the EU agencies could in our view play a key role (see Annex). In particular, we believe that your involvement would be particularly important for the following actions:

- Safe and sustainable by design and related actions
- Mixtures
- One substance, one assessment
- Indicators framework (part of the Zero Pollution and 8<sup>th</sup> EAP monitoring framework)
- Enforcement
- Research & Innovation agenda for chemicals
- Human and environmental bio-monitoring (in the context of PARC)
- Early warning system.

I would need to emphasise that your contribution to those activities would need to be carried out within your core tasks. An exception to this is the work on the indicators framework, where it was considered that EEA and ECHA need additional resources, which were planned together by the Commission in its proposal for the 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme. Another exception relates to your involvement in relevant PARC activities, where internal discussions on funding are still ongoing. Further financial needs for the future will then be assessed also through the work on ‘one substance, one assessment’, following in particular the proposal to reallocate scientific work across legislation.

We would appreciate your feedback on the proposed streams of work, and please be reassured that the table in the annex is to be considered as a draft for discussion and a living document to be regularly updated by all services involved. I would also kindly ask you to nominate **one contact person** for the overall coordination of the Strategy and **specific contact persons** for the actions where your agency will be involved. You can provide this information to Elena Montani ([elena.montani@ec.europa.eu](mailto:elena.montani@ec.europa.eu)) by 18 December.

We look forward to working together in the next years for achieving this important vision and objectives.

Best regards,

*(e-signed)*

Florika FINK- HOOIJER

Enclosure: Annex - Draft Action Plan for the implementation Chemicals Strategy

Cc: K. Sadauskas, C. de Avila, B. Berger, E. Montani, V. Manfredi, G. Gantelet,  
C. Pettinelli, M. Flueh, S. Jülicher, N. Chaze, A. Rys, L. Planas Herrera (DG ENV)