

Mandate for the BPC Ad hoc Working Group – Micro-organisms

Agreed at BPC-16 (14-16 June 2016)

1. Introduction and objectives

The Biocidal Products Committee (BPC) Ad hoc Working Group Micro-organisms (Ad Hoc WG MO) shall operate in a manner that is efficient and delivers its output in accordance with BPC working procedures to ensure the output is delivered in a timely manner. The Ad Hoc WG MO shall report to the BPC.

In order for the Ad hoc WG MO to be efficient and effective, the members are expected to carry out work on a continuous basis throughout the year, mainly by electronic exchanges or virtual meetings.

The Ad hoc WG MO will consist of members without distinction between core members and flexible members. The Chair of the Ad hoc WG MO will be from the Agency.

The BPC Rules of Procedure (RoPs) and the ECHA Conflicts of Interest policy apply to the Ad hoc WG MO.

All members of the Ad hoc Working Groups of the BPC, their advisers and invited experts participating in the meeting shall declare at each meeting any interest which could be considered to be prejudicial to their independence with respect to any point on the agenda.

The Eligibility Guidelines for members of ECHA bodies (MB/45/2013 final¹.) shall apply by analogy to all members of Working Groups of the BPC that are appointed on a long-term basis.

2. Scope of the Working Group

The Ad hoc WG MO will focus on matters related to biocides containing micro-organisms (microbial active substances). It will support the BPC and its WGs during the scientific and technical peer review process in relation to the following, where appropriate:

- Approval, renewal and review of biocidal active substances;
- Inclusion of biocidal active substances into Annex I of the BPR;
- Applications for Union authorisation, as well as the renewal, cancellation and amendments of these;
- Technical or scientific matters in relation to mutual recognition;
- Any other generic or specific methodological questions that arise from the operation of BPC in relation to microorganisms;
- Identification of the needs to revise the existing guidance documents on active microorganisms and contribution to the revision, where appropriate.

¹ http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13555/final_mb_45_2013_eligibility_crit_guid_en.pdf

3. Output and reporting of BPC WG Microorganisms

The members of the Ad hoc WG MO will be nominated for a three year term and will report to the BPC.

The deliverables of the Ad hoc WG MO are written conclusions, recommendations or draft guidance documents. The deliverables can be developed when issues concerning active micro-organisms require a more in depth investigation. The Group could be consulted upon request of any BPC permanent WG or of the ECHA dossier manager in cooperation with the evaluating Competent Authority during the evaluation phase. The Group could also be consulted during an ad hoc follow up of a WG discussion.

The Chair of the Ad hoc WG MO will be in charge of referring the identified issues to the group and of prioritising and organising the consultations.

The Ad hoc WG MO will send the deliverables to the BPC for agreement within the agreed timelines and shall, for relevant cases, respect the applicable time frames of the BPC working procedures.

Guidance documents can be developed by Ad hoc WG MO. In this case the Ad hoc WG MO will be part of the so called Partner Expert Group (PEG) and the subsequent procedure follows the ECHA consultation procedure on guidance.

In addition, upon request from the BPC WGs, the Ad hoc WG MO can provide advice on scientific questions related to case specific issues related to micro-organisms.

oOo