**Brief report from the 22st PBT EG meeting (Helsinki, 3-4 September 2019)**

In total 30 external participants were present at the meeting, representing 15 member states, the European Commission and 5 stakeholder organisations. The meeting agenda comprised six substance cases, of which two cases where discussed as groups comprising three and four substances respectively. PBT-guidance and approach development related issues were also discussed.

Substance discussion main outcomes:

- Group of azo pigments (nitrophenylazonaphthols): This is a group of small particulate substances. Further information on solubilities and log Kow is needed to assess whether B prior to P testing would be advisable. Also further testing is required.

- Nigrosine (Benzenamine, reaction products with aniline hydrochloride and Nitrobenzene): This is a complex UVCB for which available information on the composition is not sufficient to identify the most relevant constituents. Further information on identity and quantity of the constituents is needed for testing strategy setting.

- Phenol, styrenated: The tri-styrenated (TSP) constituent of this substance was assessed as meeting the vB criterion. Advice was sought as to whether the PBT-EG agrees with the P-assessment of metabolites and interpretation of the OECD 307 test results. UK as evaluating CA will receive comments from the PBT EG and will then finalise the assessment of the results received from the first SEv decision.

- MCCP (Medium chain chlorinated paraffins/ Alkanes, C14-17, chloro). This case is close to finalisation. In discussion, the general view was that a vPvB conclusion could be made for MCCP at or above 50% chlorine by weight but the assessment needs some refinements before finalisation.

- Group of Hydrofluoroethers (HFEs: HFE-7500, HFE-7000, HFE-7100 and HFE-7800): The application of the arrowhead approach, i.e. conclusions based on potential transformation products C3- and C4-PFCA was explored, and possibilities for read-across within the group were discussed. For HFE-7500, some EG members hesitated to support a vP-conclusion only on the basis of screening data and QSAR predictions. Further testing is needed.

- BTBPE (1,1'-[ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy]bis[2,4,6-tribromobenzene]): This is a potential POP candidate and therefore also the LRTP is assessed. The evidence is pointing towards at least the P and B criteria being met. The assessment requires further refinement.

With respect to PBT assessment approach development, the meeting focused on using toxicokinetic data for B-assessment of air-breathing terrestrial organisms and feasibility of the hydrocarbon block method for PBT assessment of petroleum and coal stream UVCB substances.

As regards B-assessment for air-breathers, it was deemed promising to further consider development of a screening approach which would allow to deprioritise substances from the suspicion to accumulate in air-breathing organisms. Establishment of a working group for concept development is envisaged.

NL presented a revised analysis of the applicability of the hydrocarbon block method (HCBM) for P and B assessment (T to follow at next PBT EG meeting). The analysis covers the block of 3-ring PAHs (anthracene & phenanthrene) and their C1 to C4 alkylated derivatives. There was general support by the EG members from MSCAs on the

approach applied to carry out the assessment as to whether the constituents of the block can be considered homogeneous in their P/vP or B/vB properties and for NL's conclusion that the available data are sufficient to consider the alkylated derivatives vP and vB, i.e. at least as persistent or bioaccumulative as the parent compounds. There was, however, fundamental disagreement expressed by the experts representing Concawe on both the selection of data for assessment and the conclusions.

Concawe presented their revised PBT report (2019) and how earlier comments by the PBT-EG have been taken into account.

Furthermore, Germany initiated a discussion on various strategies for requesting simulation tests for the assessment of persistence. Further written commenting of the underlying paper was agreed and DE will come back with a revised document.

Substances discussed in the 22nd PBT EG meeting:

| EC number | Substance Name | Submitted by |
|---|---|---|
| 219-372-2<br>220-562-2<br>222-429-4 | Group of nitrophenylazonaphthol (Azo pigments)<br>Pigment Orange 5 (1-(4-methyl-2-nitrophenylazo)-2-naphthol )<br>Pigment Red 4 (1-[(2-chloro-4-nitrophenyl)azo]-2-naphthol)<br>Pigment Red 3 ( 1-[(2,4-dinitrophenyl)azo]-2-naphthol) | Germany |
| 309-912-6 | Nigrosine (Benzenamine, reaction products with aniline hydrochloride and nitrobenzene) | Germany |
| 262-975-0 | Phenol, styrenated | UK |
| 253-692-4 | MCCP (Medium chain chlorinated paraffins/ Alkanes, C14-17, chloro) | UK |
| 422-270-2<br>435-790-1<br>484-410-9<br>484-450-7 | Group of Hydrofluoroethers (HFEs)<br>HFE-7100<br>HFE-7500<br>HFE-7800<br>HFE-7000 | Spain |
| 253-692-3 | BTBPE (1,1'-[ethane-1,2-diylbisoxy]bis[2,4,6-tribromobenzene]) | Switzerland |