

Technical adoption of the ECHA work programme for 2019

51st Meeting of the Management Board 20-21 September 2018

Proposal

The Management Board is invited to technically adopt the work programme for 2019, as required by REACH (31 October). The document is identical to the draft approved in December 2017. As part of the ECHA Programming Document, it will be updated further during the autumn and will be submitted for written consultation before ultimate adoption in the December Management Board meeting, including the then available resources and budget figures.

Background

REACH requires the Management Board to adopt the work programme by 31 October each year for the coming year.¹ However, this timeline is not in sync with the budgetary process and hence an update of the work programme including resource allocation in line with the budget for the next year has to take place in each December Board meeting.

For 2018, a written consultation of the Management Board is scheduled for October on the ECHA Strategic Plan, the work programme 2019 and the draft for 2020. This will allow for proper reflection and discussion during the December meeting, based on preparations by the Working Group on Planning & Reporting. The Board noted the revised timelines in March 2018².

Rationale

The "early" adoption of the work programme allows focussing the Management Board deliberations on the final proposal at the most suitable point of time, i.e. after a written consultation, and at a point when the budget and staff figures for the coming year are fixed. Therefore, the ultimate adoption including resources as financing decision of ECHA's activities should be in December. This reduces the adoption of the programme pursuant to REACH to a legal necessity that needs to be met for compliance reasons. For future years, it is planned to advance the technical adoption of the work programme for the year n+1 even further to the December meeting of the year n.

Alternative options

Full adoption of the 2019 work programme without resources and limitation of the December discussion to the resources update without content related discussion.

Attachment:

- Work programme 2019 as part of the Single Programming Document 2019-2022 ([link to S-CIRCABC](#), please double-click and see pages 33-77 (MB/47/2017 Annex 1))

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¹ Article 78(b) REACH.

² See MB/02/2018