Green Chemicals Policy
- a Danish perspective

Helsinki Chemicals Forum

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PREVENTION – critical for protection of humans and the environment

Hundredvis spiste giftigt kød i flere år – nu går myndighederne ind i sagen

Source: 1) https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2021-04-11-hundredvis-spiste-giftigt-kod-i-flere-aar-nu-gaar-myndighederne-ind-i-sagen 2) Picture from Sjællandske, section 1, 20th March 2021

Source heat map: https://docplayer.dk/19670394-Daarlig-saekdksualitet-hos-danske-maend.html

First National ED Strategy 2002

From strategy to policy - GETTING IT RIGHT – REACH and CLP

The Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability - a unique opportunity to get it right!

Key elements for the Danish Government:

• **No chemicals of concern in consumer products!**
  Group restrictions

• The concept of ”essential use” needed to limit the use of the most problematic substances to essential application
Key elements for the Danish Government:

- **Children, other vulnerable groups and workers require better protection!**
  Improve regulation of toys – extend to all children articles

- **Make ‘no data – no market’ a reality!**

- **Improved data requirements!**
  To eliminate knowledge gaps and make requirements unambiguous

- **Identification, communication and handling of concern chemicals!**
  Expand chemicals of concern: EDs, PBTs, PMTs and immunotoxic and neurotoxic substances
  
  Communicate chemical content in products

- **Products on the EU market shall be safe, no matter their origin**
From strategy to policy - GETTING IT RIGHT – sustainability concept

Need sustainability concept for chemicals

Sound management of chemicals a prerequisite for climate neutrality, circular economy and a high level of biodiversity.
Why do we need GETTING IT RIGHT – EU and globally?

**2000-2017:** Global chemicals production capacity doubled

**EU 2017 to 2030:**
- Global market share: 15.6% to 10.7%

**Asia:** 70% of sales in 2030

EU chemicals production 2004-2016:
- No move towards non-hazardous chemicals

Sources: Commission staff working document to non-REACH fitness check, 2019 and Global
Chemicals Outlook II, 2019
There is a need for GLOBAL FIRST MOVERS

Chemicals and products are traded globally

Urgent need for ambitious sound management of chemicals in EU and globally

EU chemicals policy enhance protection – and help drive change globally e.g. by

- New hazard classes under first CLP then GHS
- Broad PFAS restriction - only exempting essential uses - support current SAICM / OECD / national activities
- Sustainability concept for chemicals will support circular economy & SDG implementation

EU chemicals policy is both a possibility and a challenge for industry – and the rest of us!

EU fingerprint: high standards Import / export
Take home message for future green chemicals policy

- Prevention for protection by:
  - Applying generic risk management as far as possible
  - Expand concept of substances of concern & add new hazard classes
  - Get the data right that match hazard criteria & identify concern chemicals
  - Define sustainability for chemicals – and show what you do
  - Set high standards for chemicals and products and profit on demands for safe and sustainable chemicals
  - No data – no market & equal standards no matter products origin
  - Strive for ambitious global sound management of chemicals
Thank you for your attention

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