EU monthly Update

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Opportunities for engagement

Chromium – European Commission to organise information session and to receive questions from stakeholders

On 15 February 2023, the ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) is holding an online session on the regulatory and procedural aspects of the authorisation process of hexavalent chromium VI. Chromium is essential for the preservation of motoring heritage as chrome plating is needed for restoration and maintenance of historic vehicles. To allow the continuation of Chromium use, an authorisation by the European Commission will be necessary under the EU chemical regulations (REACH). Link to the website.

FIVA will participate in the session and defend the continuation of the use of chromium for the preservation of historic heritage.

Developments

Frans Timmermans, European Commission Vice President: "As of 2035, all new cars in the EU will be zero-emission" On 19 December, Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans, leading the European Commission's work on the European Green Deal and the European Climate Law, insisted that "there can be no doubt as to where our road is leading. As of 2035, all new cars in the European Union will be zero-emission." While recognising Europe's "proud history in car-making", he claimed that "most European car makers have already declared that they will go full electric by 2035". Link to the press article.

EU Council and Parliament advance legislative work on updated Trans-European Transport Network rules

Trans-European Transport Network rules, in force since 2013, address the development of a Europe-wide network of railway lines, roads, inland waterways, ports, airports and railroad terminals. In December 2021, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a new Regulation on guidelines for the development of the Trans-European Transport Network as part of the efficient and green mobility package. The ultimate objective of the revision is to close gaps, remove bottlenecks and technical barriers. On 8 December 2022, Transport MEPs engaged in a first debate on more than 1.900 amendments tabled. They welcomed the revision and suggest to strengthen EU's ambition to provide citizens and businesses with more sustainable, affordable and efficient transport links by 2030. They will engage in further talks in order to prepare Parliament's position to be voted early next year. Link to the proposal.

Commission proposes voluntary certification of carbon removals

On 30 November, the European Commission adopted a proposal for the first EU-wide voluntary framework to certify high-quality carbon removals from the atmosphere, as part of a push to reach net-zero emissions by midcentury. The proposal is part of the European Green Deal strategy. The proposed regulation will significantly improve the EU's capacity to quantify, monitor and verify carbon removals. Higher transparency will ensure trust from stakeholders and industry, and prevent greenwashing. The proposal alludes to the use of sustainable synthetic fuels. Link to the proposal.

The FIVA Legislation Commission members are: Lars Genild (Chairman), Sébastien Berthebaud, Giuseppe Dell'Aversano, Loïc Dyval, Wolfgang Eckel, Michail Filippidis, Carla Fiocchi, Peeter Henning, Johann König, Stanislav Minářík, Bob Owen, Bert Pronk and Kurt Sjoberg. Gabriel Lecumberri of EPPA works with the Commission.