

FPP4EU Collaboration Platform Workshop

Thon Hotel, Brussels, 12 December 2022, 10.00

Elements for speech by [REDACTED] DG GROW F1.

- I would like to thank the organizers for inviting me to give a short speech on this very important topic.
- Also from my side a warm welcome to all participants in the room and online. I appreciate the pro-active collaboration between stakeholders and authorities on PFAS.
- I am aware that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are widely used in almost all industry sectors.
- Five national authorities from Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden are preparing a dossier for the restriction on the manufacture, placing on the market and use of PFAS. As we understood, it will be very broad restriction dossier covering PFAS as one chemical group and all applications; except for firefighting foams as will be further explained by [REDACTED].
- The Commission is not involved in the preparation of the restriction dossier and will be an observer during the opinion making of ECHA's Committees (RAC and SEAC). We cannot engage in any discussions on the content of the upcoming restrictions.
- I really would encourage you to engage in the consultation possibilities during the opinion-making phase of any restriction proposal. The consultation process will explained by xxx (ECHA) during the first session of this event. It is very important to base the decision on restriction proposals on good information.

- In addition, I would like to encourage providing joint submissions; information on the impact or the lack of availability of alternatives for an individual company is difficult to process. The ECHA Committees should get a picture of a sector as a whole.
- Further, the information should preferably be specific. Just a statement without solid justification will not help the Committees in drafting their opinion.
- To conclude, I am looking forward to the presentations and discussions of today's meeting. Especially I welcome the presentations on the case studies. It is always important to have a reflection from real practise.