

From: ENV DIRECTOR GENERAL
Sent: mardi 21 novembre 2023 18:08
To:



(ENV)

Cc: ENV DG BRIEF REQUEST; ENV DIRECTOR GENERAL
Subject: Report - meeting with Deutsche Industrie- und Handelskammer (DIHK)

Good evening,

The DG thanks all the colleagues for the input and the colleagues that participated. See herewith enclosed the report in English but the discussion was mainly in German.

DIHK

(Brüssel, 17. November 2023, 11:10 – 12:10)

DG FFH was invited as speaker to the meet the DIHK-Ausschüsse Umwelt und Energie sowie Industrie und Forschung in Brussels. The introductory remarks were quite the same as for the BDI Geschäftsführerkonferenz (report see mail on 15 November).

During the question round an important topic was PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, the 'forever chemicals'). Some participants expressed their concerns regarding the application for a ban on PFAS. DG FFH explained that the **proposal came from five countries, including Germany**. Now ECHA is dealing with this request and expectingly it will take time. She underlined that this is not a proposal from the EU and that the Commission wanted to have a revision of REACH instead. The difference would be that this is a proposal to ban and that the **REACH revision could be exempted. This means that PFAS with essential uses but key to achieving the green transformation and without existing alternatives.** This might be the case for PFAS used during the production of for example chips or ballistics. The REACH revision would have been an important step concerning essential uses but also in order to have more foresight and clarity. However, she informed the public that although REACH will not be finalised in this legislative term, **steps continue to be taken to prepare and finally implement REACH under the next Commission.** The topic and discussions on chemicals will continue and are expected to become even more public (see the debate on Belgian drinking water), even if REACH is not yet available. Nevertheless, she stressed that it is **important to be in dialogue with the industries and to get support for the essential use approach and the REACH revision.**



Wishing you all a nice evening.

Best regards

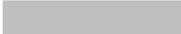


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