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May Highlights

Kellen conference on the EC Circular Economy Package

Kellen consultancy gathered industrial representatives and European Commission officials to address some of the challenges posed by the CE package. In 2017, both the European Parliament and the Council will work on the chemicals and the waste proposals from the EC. The European Commission wishes the package to enable economic growth and support innovations across Europe. This should

Tackling childhood obesity in Europe: promoting healthy and active lifestyles.

Chief scientist and representative to the EU WHO explained obesity was a key concern of WHO. Non-communicable diseases are increasing in Europe due to high-blood pressure, tobacco (incl. 2nd hand), and alcohol use. And that is their main concern. He also said that WHO recommended 5g of salt per day as a medium consumption. He deplored that limit is exceeded in a great majority of countries. Salt reduction, among other things, will be their main objective as a [recent publication](#) from O'Flaherty et al. (2016) - *Exploring potential mortality reductions in 9 European countries by improving diet and lifestyle: A modelling approach* – shows that a 30% of salt reduction in diet leads to a mortality decrease by 6 to 8%.

In the WHO European Region



He concluded with a request to medical doctors to prescribe along a healthy diet, some physical activity. Health is a political priority as the whole community

trigger new industrial models and also create jobs. Industry representatives remarked that full circularity is not realistic, as for some industrial processes, there will always be a raw material and hence a residual waste. The EC acknowledged this fact and reiterated their wish to make the circularity principle a trustable and attractive notion.

pays healthy choices. BEUC, the consumers' organisation spoke afterwards explaining consumers should be made responsible first in choosing the food they eat. However, BEUC also insisted on the necessary cooperation of the food industry to improve their products' nutritive quality. No one can ignore that these products are very convenient for consumers as it comes ready to be consumed at a cheap price. The role of the industry is therefore undeniable. Conclusions of the conference invited participants to check up online the different European databases that referenced initiatives to tackle obesity.

EuSalt General Assembly 2016

The EuSalt General Assembly recorded the highest attendance on 26th and 27th May 2016 since its inception. More than a hundred business leaders and experts joined in Thessaloniki (Greece) to exchange and review the European salt sector's achievements since 2015.

The conference focused on the EU political priorities for industry: The Circular Economy. Several speakers ranging from the European Environment Agency, the chemical industry, and the industrial minerals sectors explained their position and vision on the topic. Policy-makers aim at increasing European productivity and benefit to society and the

environment. As a consequence, this has become a priority for EuSalt members, with the launch of a project to assess the salt sector's position and potential future progress.

EuSalt's counterparts from China, Ethiopia, Israel, Switzerland, the United States, and Turkey also attended increasing the international outreach of the event. Hubert François from Salins Group and Ladan Iravanian from Tata Chemicals were elected respectively President and Vice President of EuSalt for the coming two years.



Safety Alert Initiatives

As best practice sharing is an essential action in EuSalt safety commitment group, reporting in the case of accidents/incidents will be provided through a generic, one-page pro-forma safety alert document [one-page pro-forma safety alert document](#) be send to the secretariat. The documents will be added to the Members 'only website, reported upon in the monthly newsletter and will allow anonymous reporting from companies and add to the sharing and learning process with other companies.

European Commission proposal on EU Mercury Regulation

Following the signature of the Minamata Convention, a new legislation on mercury storage applicable similarly in all 28 European Member States should be voted on at EU-level. The implementation is foreseen for 1st January 2018. One of the points on which the debate in Europe focuses is f.e. metal sulphate (mercury sulfide) storage and safety rules in the future law.

Climate & Environment

EU ETS Revision : Updated EuSalt Position

Based on recent meetings with MEP offices and new data from some industrial sectors (e.g. the cement industry), it seems that the



tiered approach to carbon leakage is being considered by some.

Even though most energy intensive industries are opposed, likewise a solid group of Member States and MEPs, some MEPs are considering it. That's the case of the European Parliament's Industry and Transport. It proposes 3 tiers:

- High = 100%: if the sector scores > 2.5 (methodology proposed by the European Commission and used by Ecofys),

- Medium = 80%: if $1 > \text{sector} < 2.5$,
- Low = 60%: if $0.2 > \text{sector} < 1$.

Sectors below 0.2 would not receive any allowance. The final report to be put to vote is still to be published.

From our meetings with different stakeholders, it is still uncertain whether the tiered approach represents a plausible option for carbon leakage (CL) assessment and protection. In the event the approach is not favoured tenacious debates around the minimum requirements for each tier can be expected until 2018, deadline when the Directive needs to be adopted.

Regarding the most harmonised treatment between direct and indirect emissions, so far, was envisaged through the redistribution of ETS revenues to compensate sectors facing indirect costs. Yet, indirect costs will be dealt with at national level.

Circular Economy (C.E.): Update from political negotiations



The European Commission came to present its views during a debate organised by the Non Energy Extractive Industries (EuSalt is a member) on the Circular Economy Package. It includes different legislative proposals and is a long-term project whose objectives are to increase competitiveness of European industries, re-industrialise Europe, create jobs and stimulate innovation. For now, the European Parliament and the Council are

putting together their opinion on the C.E. Action Plan.

EuSalt participates to the European Commission study on maritime economic data



The European Network of Maritime Clusters (ENMC) and DG Mare commissioned the Italian consultant company, Cogea, to study the establishment of a framework for processing maritime economic data in Europe. This project is a part of the Blue growth priority to have a reliable European maritime economic data, to further harness the potential of Europe's oceans, seas and coasts. Existing data was inconsistent. The main objective of the study is to support the process for the collection and processing of data on the maritime economy across the European Union in order to help set maritime priorities in Europe, define and inform policy and track performance across industries. The study should take 15 months. EuSalt is one of the industry participating to the study and also part of the peer-review group. A workshop with all participants, Cogea and the European Commission should take place in early October in Brussels.

NOx emissions are being reviewed in Council

After the problem with Volkswagen's cars, real driving emissions (RDE) are on the political agenda. On 7 June, the Council (composed of member States) will discuss about it.

The discussion is expected to focus on the NOx emissions by diesel cars and the use of defeat

devices. The reduction of NOx emissions has remained lower than foreseen, and that studies showed significant differences in results of emission measurements between laboratory and real driving tests. These differences are attributed to the fact that after-treatment facilities are not always fully operational, and car manufacturers claim to do so in order to protect the engine. As after-treatment facilities can shut down partially or completely, the note suggests that there are widely diverging views on the use of defeat devices, even though forbidden by EU law.

For now, no evidence has been found that other car manufacturer besides Volkswagen have used defeat devices. Questions Member States will address during the meeting are:

(i) Against the background of the legal prohibition of defeat control devices, do you

agree that the present EU regulatory framework allows too much room for interpretation regarding the use of such devices which needs to be tackled?

(ii) Do you agree there is an urgent need to clarify the application of Article 5.2 of Regulation (EC) 715/2007 to avoid potential abuse of the use of banned defeat devices and to invite the Commission to take specific measures regarding the prohibition of such devices before the end of this year?

(iii) Do you have any suggestions, such as the use of 'state of the art technologies', which the Commission should take into account when considering appropriate measures, including possible means to reduce existing NOx vehicle emissions?

More news

EU Policy News

Slovak Presidency from 1st July to 31st December 2016

From July to December 2016, Slovakia will hold the Presidency of the EU Council for the first time, following the Dutch and preceding the Maltese Presidency. Parliamentary elections took place in Slovakia in March, and the new coalition government is formed by Prime Minister Robert Fico including the S&D-affiliated SMER-SD, the EFDD-affiliated Slovak National party, EPP-affiliated MOST-HÍD representing the country's Hungarian minority and the centre-right Network party, which together hold 85 of the 150 seats in the Parliament. Among other priorities, the Slovak Presidency should deliver on Energy Union measures (including the climate policies). The circular economy package should also be advanced, in particular on the waste parts of the European Commission proposal.



State of the play concerning the third update of the EU Catalogue of feed materials

The consolidated version of the update of the EU Catalogue of feed materials is available on the members' only part of EuSalt website. The submissions on salt under chapter 11.4.1 states: Sodium chloride (NaCl) or product obtained by evaporative crystallisation from brine (saturated or

depleted in another process) (vacuum salt) or evaporation of seawater (marine salt and solar salt) or grinding rock salt (Sodium Ash insoluble in HCl if > 10 %). The update of the catalogues was on the

agenda of the SCoPAFF on 23-24 May 2016 for discussion, and a vote on the final document may not be expected before June 2016.

Publications

- Iodine Global Network, IDD Newsletter, February 2016, vol. 44(1): [available online](#).
- Ferrocyanides as anti-caking agents in salt road, Dr. Franz Götzfried Salt Research & Consulting, Bad Wimpfen, Janvier 2016: available in [members' section](#). *For economic and ecological considerations road salt should be conditioned with as much ferrocyanide used by the road salt producer as it is actually needed to prevent caking.*
- EUthyroid Policy Meeting's documents in [member's section](#)

Events

EuSalt General Assembly

We thank you very much for your participation. Presentations are now posted on the EuSalt "Members Only" website. Please fill in the [online evaluation](#) and help us improve our meetings in the future.

The next General Assembly will take place in Brussels in spring – summer 2017. Dates previously announced had to be modified and should be announced very shortly.



SAVE THE DATE! The next **World Salt Symposium** will take place on **19th-21st June 2018** in park City (U.S.A.). More information to come.

Upcoming Events	
30th May-3rd Jun.	EU Green Week : 'Investing on a Greener Future'
8th Jun.	Raw Materials Supply Group

9 Jun.	Role and engagements of the European chocolate, biscuits and confectionery industry in the nutrition and health debate
13th-17th Jun.	EU Sustainable Energy Week
13 Jul.	Circular Economy EG conference call
1st Sep.	ECHA Biocides Stakeholder Day

14-16 Sep.	EuroChlor General Assembly
15-16 Sep.	EFLA Congress (Krakow, Poland)
17 Nov.	The Concrete Dialogues 2016

22-25 Nov.	3 rd International Biocides congress (Antalya, Turkey)
1-3 Mar.	Salt Institute General Assembly (Naples FL, USA)
19-21 Jun.	World Salt Symposium

CONTACT

EuSalt aisbl - Square de Meeûs 38/40– 1000 Brussels

T. +32 (0)2 401 61 33 – F. +32 (0)2 401 61 35

info@eusalt.com

www.eusalt.com – www.de-icing.eu