

### CHAIR'S WELCOME



Dear all,

The next ENVI meetings will take place on Wednesday 1, Thursday 2 and Monday 6 March. The meeting on 1-2 March will focus on combating climate change, chemicals, and health.

On Wednesday morning, the Commission will present its proposal on a Union certification framework for carbon removals. This aims to encourage innovative carbon removal technologies and sustainable carbon farming solutions, while contributing to the EU's climate, environmental and zero-pollution goals.

The Committee will also vote on reports dealing with sustainable carbon cycles, fluorinated greenhouse gases and substances that deplete the ozone layer. At its meeting on 9 February, ENVI endorsed a series of agreements with Council on aspects of the 'Fit for 55' package that are designed to combat global warming.

The Wednesday morning session will conclude with an exchange of views with the Commission on the revision of the REACH regulation, addressing chemical substances' potential impact on human health and the environment. On Thursday morning, we will discuss the sustainable use of plant protection products as well as hearing a presentation from the Commission on ensuring the availability and sustainability of fertilisers.

With regard to health, we will consider, together with the Civil Liberties Committee, a draft report on the European Health Data Space proposal. We will also have an exchange of views with the Commission on the Beating Cancer Plan and the Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative. The meeting will conclude with the discussion of a draft report on standards of quality and safety for substances of human origin intended for human application.

On Monday 6 March, we will hold our annual exchange of views with the European Environment Agency Executive Director. There will also be an exchange of views with the Commission on the recent Court of Justice judgment concerning derogations from express bans on the marketing and use of seeds treated with plant protection products containing neonicotinoids. In addition, we will discuss the revision of the EU pollinators initiative with the Commission.

As always, you can follow the ENVI Committee meeting live at: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/envi/home.html>

You can also follow the activities of the ENVI Committee on its official Twitter account @EP\_ENVIRONMENT

Pascal Canfin - 28 February 2023

### MEETING ITEMS

#### Exchanges of views:

- Exchange of views with the COM on the Beating Cancer Plan and on the Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative (1/3)
- Exchange of views with the Commission on the future revision of the REACH regulation (1/3)

#### Presentations:

- Presentation by the COM of the Union certification framework for carbon removals (1/3)
- Presentation of the Communication on the EU action plan against wildlife trafficking and debriefing on the outcome of the COP 19 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (1/3)
- Presentation by the Commission on ensuring availability and affordability of fertilisers (2/3)

#### Considerations:

- Draft report on the European Health Data Space (joint ENVI/LIBE) (1/3)
- Draft report on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 (2/3)
- Draft report on the standards of quality and safety for substances of human origin intended for human application and repealing Directives 2002/98/EC and 2004/23/EC (2/3)

#### Votes on 1 March:

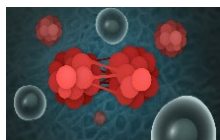
- Fluorinated greenhouse gases (EICKHOUT)
- Substances that deplete the ozone layer (POLFJÄRD)
- Sustainable Carbon Cycles (BERNHUBER)
- Ensuring food security and long term resilience of the EU agriculture (HAZEKAMP)
- Guidelines for the 2024 budget (CANFIN)
- Objection authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified oilseed rape (HÄUSLING, HAZEKAMP, PIETIKÄINEN, SIDL)

### ENVI IN THE NEXT PLENARY

Draft agenda of the Plenary available [here](#).

### EXCHANGES OF VIEWS

#### Beating Cancer Plan and Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative



On Wednesday, the Committee will hold a second exchange of views with the Commission on the implementation of the Beating Cancer Plan and the Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative.

The Beating Cancer Plan was launched in 2021 and focuses on prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer and the quality of life of patients and survivors. The Healthier Together—EU Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative, also launched in 2021, aims to support EU countries in identifying and implementing effective policies to reduce the burden of major non-communicable diseases and improve citizens' health and well-being. The Initiative includes five strands: a population-level health promotion and disease prevention of NCDs; diabetes; cardiovascular diseases; chronic respiratory diseases; and mental health and neurological disorders.

#### Revision of the REACH regulation



ENVI Members will exchange views with the Commission on the forthcoming revision of the legislation on the registration, evaluation and authorization of chemicals (REACH). First adopted in 2006, REACH is one of the seminal EU regulations protecting human health and the environment. The revision is part of the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, a key element of the Zero-Pollution Action Plan and the EU Green Deal.

The REACH Regulation is expected to undergo several changes foreseen in the Strategy and the Action Plan, such as addressing the impact of endocrine disruptors and promoting innovation to decontaminate waste streams. It will also look to balance the goals of promoting innovation while protecting human health and the environment.

### PRESENTATIONS

#### Union certification framework for carbon removals



The Commission will present its proposal on a Union certification framework for carbon removals. The proposal aims to encourage innovative carbon removal technologies and sustainable carbon farming solutions, while contributing to the EU's climate, environmental and

zero-pollution goals.

The proposal builds upon the directive on the geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> (CCS Directive), and on the LULUCF Regulation. The proposal was preceded by a Communication on Sustainable Carbon Cycles stressing the need for a business model in line with ecological principles. Overall, the proposal aims to introduce a voluntary framework for a carbon removal certification in the European Union, as well as to list sustainability objectives.

#### Ensuring availability and affordability of fertilisers



The Russian invasion and occupation of Ukraine triggered a crisis that had severe negative effects on food security worldwide. The Commission's Communication on ensuring availability and affordability of fertilisers covers the EU's response including targeted financial support to farmers through the amended Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid, and EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes.

The Commission pledged to take steps to improve transparency by setting up an EU-wide fertiliser market observatory, as well as build on the Common Agriculture Policy and National Strategic Plans to improve the efficiency of fertiliser use. The discussion will follow up on the resolution Parliament adopted on 16 February 2023. This called on the Commission to collect and disseminate best practice for optimizing the use of fertilisers, scaling up nutrient recycling and the use of alternative fertilisers.

#### EU action plan against wildlife trafficking and debriefing on the outcome of the CITES COP19



The Commission will present the revised EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking and debrief MEPs on the outcome of the COP19 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

According to Europol, the EU is a global hub for wildlife trafficking. The new Action Plan seeks to strengthen global partnerships and cooperation with source consumer and transit countries. It also aims to strengthen the legal and policy framework and address the uneven levels of implementation and enforcement throughout the EU. The ENVI Committee sent a delegation of two Members to the 19th Conference of the Parties to CITES, which took place in November 2022 in Panama.

### CONSIDERATIONS

#### European Health Data Space



On Wednesday, ENVI and LIBE will hold a joint meeting on the report on the European Health Data Space (EHDS) proposal. The legislative proposal addresses health-specific challenges to electronic health data access and sharing and aims to create a common space where natural persons can control their electronic health data. It will be an integral part of building a European Health Union. It aims to leverage digitalization and use of data to ensure better, more personalized and comprehensive care, as well as more accurate and targeted research & innovation and policy making.

Rapporteur ENVI: [SOKOL \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows ENVI: [CERDAS \(S&D\)](#), [SOLIS \(RENEW\)](#), [METZ \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [VONDRA \(ECR\)](#), [KOPCIŃSKA \(ECR\)](#), [KONEČNÁ \(LEFT\)](#)

Rapporteur LIBE: [TARDINO \(ID\)](#)

Shadows: [ZARZALEJOS \(EPP\)](#), [VITANOV \(S&D\)](#), [DURIS-NICHOLSONOVA \(RENEW\)](#), [BREYER \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [KEMPA \(ECR\)](#), [ARVANITIS \(LEFT\)](#)

### Draft report on the standards of quality and safety for substances of human origin intended for human application and repealing Directives 2002/98/EC and 2004/23/EC



On Thursday, ENVI members will consider the draft report on the quality and safety for substances of human origin intended for human application (SoHO). The Commission proposal is made up of the 2002 Blood Directive, and the 2004 Tissues and Cells Directive. The framework

sets the safety and quality standards for all the steps from donation and collection, to testing, processing, storage and distribution, to eventual application in the patient's body.

The proposed regulation seeks to address shortcomings of the current legislation associated with scientific, technical, and medical advances, and to facilitate patient access to the highest level of health security in the world. This initiative is part of the EU's ambition to build a stronger European Health Union, to protect citizens' health better, to improve future pandemic preparedness, and to improve the resilience of EU health systems. In her draft report, the Rapporteur calls for harmonised national systems to facilitate cross-border exchanges, and ensure autonomy in SoHO supply.

Rapporteur: [COLIN-OESTERLÉ \(EPP\)](#)

Shadows: [GONZÁLEZ CASARES \(S&D\)](#), [GLÜCK \(RENEW\)](#), [METZ \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [KOPCIŃSKA \(ECR\)](#), [KONEČNÁ \(LEFT\)](#)

### Draft report on the sustainable use of plant protection products and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115



The proposal would transform the Directive on the sustainable use of plant protection products (SUD) into a Regulation to address the limitations of the present SUD in reducing pesticide use and the potential risks to human health and the environment caused by insufficient implementation and enforcement of

the Directive.

The Commission's proposal seeks to bring the legislation in line with the ambitions of the Farm to Fork Strategy (F2F) and promote sustainable food systems and agricultural practices. More specifically, it aims to reduce the negative impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment. It is part of a package of measures aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of the EU's food system and mitigating the economic losses associated with climate change biodiversity loss, such as declining soil fertility and pesticide-induced pollinator loss.

Rapporteur: [WIENER \(Greens/EFA\)](#)

Shadows: [BERNHUBER \(EPP\)](#), [ARENA \(S&D\)](#), [HUITEMA \(RENEW\)](#), [LIMMER \(ID\)](#), [VONDRA \(ECR\)](#), [HAZEKAMP \(LEFT\)](#)

## COMING UP ON 6 MARCH

- Exchange of views with Hans Bruyninckx, Executive Director of the European Environment Agency (EEA).
- Exchange of views with the Commission on the Court of Justice judgement on derogations from express bans on the marketing and use of seeds treated with plant protection products containing neonicotinoids.
- Revision of the EU Pollinators Initiative - A new deal for pollinators.

## NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

### Recent publications:

- In-depth analysis on [Issues at stake at the COP15 Conference to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montréal, Canada, December 2022](#)
- In-depth analysis on [Health-related quality of life in people living with HIV](#)
- Study on the [COP27 climate change conference: status of climate negotiations and issues at stake, Sharm El-Sheikh \(Egypt\), 6-18 November 2022](#)
- [Briefing on the 19th Conference of the Parties \(COP19\) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\), 23 to 25 November 2022, Panama](#)
- Briefing on [Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Frans Timmermans](#)
- Briefing on [Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Stella Kyriakides](#)
- Briefing on [Tracking the EU Commissioners' commitments - Von der Leyen Commission, 2019 - 2024: Virginijus Sinkevičius](#)
- Briefing on [the UN High Level Political Forum, New-York, 13-15 July 2022](#)
- Briefing on the [UN Ocean's Conference, 28 to 30 June 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal](#)
- Briefing on the [75th World Health Assembly - "Health for peace and peace for health", Geneva - Switzerland - 22-28 May 2022](#)
- Study on [Carbon farming: making agriculture fit for 2030](#) (also its At a glance version in [EN](#), [FR](#), [DE](#), [IT](#), [ES](#) and [PL](#))
- Study on [the Access to medicinal products](#)
- In depth analysis on [the link between biodiversity loss and the increasing spread of zoonotic diseases](#) (also available in [DE](#))
- Briefing on [the Farm to Fork strategy - An overview of Parliament's positions](#)
- Workshop proceedings on [2030 climate target plan: extension of European Emission Trading System \(ETS\) to transport emissions](#)
- Workshop proceedings on [2030 climate target plan: review of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry \(LULUCF\) Regulation](#)
- Workshop proceedings on [2030 climate target plan: review of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry \(LULUCF\) Regulation](#)
- Briefing on [the Greenhouse gas emissions from shipping: waiting for concrete progress at IMO level](#)

### Upcoming publications:

- Study on potential measures to facilitate active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) production in Member States
- Study on the Independence and transparency policies of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

### NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

#### European Environment Agency (EEA)



##### **Investigating Europe's secondary raw material markets**

Europe's ambitions for a circular economy require the timely provision of good quality recycled raw materials to manufacturers. However, according to a recent European Environment Agency (EEA) assessment, out of the eight most common recyclables, only aluminium, paper and glass have well-functioning secondary markets. Lack of standardisation and competition with new materials are among the challenges for other markets, such as plastics and textiles. The report acknowledges the need for more information to enable a proper monitoring and assessment of the markets and presents options to overcome market barriers for recycled raw materials. Learn more [here](#)

#### European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



Last month, EFSA published its re-evaluation of the existing health-based guidance values for copper and exposure assessment from all sources. According to EFSA's scientific experts, combined exposure to copper from all sources

does not pose health concerns for the EU population. Excessive copper retention in the body over time could be toxic for humans, especially to the liver. EFSA's Scientific Committee has concluded that no retention of copper is expected to occur with an intake of up to 5 mg per day and established an acceptable daily intake (safe level) of 0.07 milligrams per kilogram of body weight for the adult population. More info [here](#).

#### European Medicines Agency (EMA)



On 16 February 2023, the EMA has published the highlights of its activities in 2022 as regard to human and veterinary medicines. In 2022, EMA recommended for marketing authorisation:

- 89 human medicines. Of these, 40 had a new active substance which had never been authorised in the EU before.
- 10 veterinary medicines. Of these, three had a new active substance. Two were vaccines, including one new biotechnological vaccine.

The 2022 overviews include a selection of new treatments that represent significant progress in their therapeutic areas, the most important recommendations on vaccines and treatments for public health emergencies (COVID-19 and mpox), as well as a summary of some of the most notable safety-related recommendations from EMA during last year. For more

information: [Human medicines: highlights of 2022](#) and [Veterinary medicines: highlights of 2022](#)

#### European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)



##### **Towards an animal free regulatory system for industrial chemicals:**

As part of ECHA's commitment to support the transition, the Agency is organising a workshop on 31 May – 1 June 2023. The event will bring stakeholders together to develop a common understanding of what new approach methodologies (NAMs) can achieve in the short and long term. The workshop will take place in Helsinki and online, and the deadline for expressions of interest is 28 February 2023. To register, write to [nam\(at\)echa.europa.eu](mailto:nam(at)echa.europa.eu) <https://echa.europa.eu/-/new-approach-methodologies-workshop-towards-an-animal-free-regulatory-system-for-industrial-chemicals>

#### European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



##### **Infection prevention and control practices in relation to respiratory viral infections in healthcare settings**

The ECDC has issued a report on Considerations for infection prevention and control practices for respiratory viral infections in healthcare settings. The report recommends that healthcare facilities maintain and strengthen infection prevention and control (IPC) measures, due to the high community transmission and co-circulation of respiratory viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and others.

During periods of high community transmission of respiratory viruses, staff, visitors, and patients, should be advised to wear medical face masks in the common areas of health facilities and patient rooms. Additional IPC interventions include ensuring physical distancing measures, avoiding, if feasible, crowded outpatient and emergency services, and ventilation.

Link to the report [here](#).

Next meetings of the ENVI Committee: 22-23 March 2023 (Brussels).

Future meetings: [ENVI Committee meetings 2023.pdf](#)

Watch online the Committee meeting on the [EP website](#) or on [Europarl TV](#).

Past meetings are available: [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

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