



## **EXPERT REPORT**

## EXPERT MISSION ON THE APPROXIMATION TO EU CHEMICALS LEGISLATION

REF: TAIEX EVENT 62249

**DATE: 20-22 SEPTEMBER 2016** 

PLACE: SARAJRVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

# INFORMATION ON THE EXPERT MISSION

Country visited	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Institution(s) visited	Federal Ministry of Health
Name(s) of person(s) involved in the visit	Sabina Šahman Salihbegović, Snježana Brčkalo, Sanja Čustović, Indira Hodžić, Adisa Mehić, Džejna Milaković-Ramadani, Nina Pajović, Dina Šehović, Amar Hadžić, Irfan Ramić and Brankica Bjeloš (interpreter)

## DETAILS OF THE EXPERT<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Data Protection</u>

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1. Objective of the mission	The aim of the meeting was the approximation of legislation in Bosnia Herzegovina to the EU chemicals legislation and the transposition into secondary legislation of detailed provisions for the authorization and restrictions of certain chemicals according to the REACH Regulation 1907/2006 - Annexes XIV and XVII, by improvements of existing laws, draft laws, bylaws and draft bylaws.  The REACH-regulation is together with the CLP-regulation at the heart of EU chemicals legislation. It contains the provisions on classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals that for this aim also implement the UN-supported Globally Harmonised System (GHS).
2. Observations: state of play; outcome of discussions; etc.	It was discussed during the meetings that REACH-transposition has to take into consideration the degree of transposition that is optimal, desired and at the same time possible to implement in practice. Such a balanced implementation of the regulation, ensuring the Rule of law, industry preparedness and the strengthening of the core administration, would be necessary to lay the legal ground for EU-membership negotiations.
	The BiH Federation part has to catch up with the Republika Srpska in which REACH-rules are in force already since some years.
	National coordination must be of crucial importance for this aim, for developing a joint national chemicals strategy and for the readiness in the BiH to further approximate its legislation to the EU Chemicals legislation.
	The mission was completed according to the planned schedule and with the intended attendance.
3. Conclusions	Full participation in the work of the REACH Regulation stipulates membership.
	Industry and administration have establish the EU-harmonised control of the access to substances of very high concern because of the hazards the substances pose (EU-rules on SVHC). The Federation of BiH has to implement the REACH-restrictions taking into consideration the needs that there will be for periods of grace before restrictions enter into force. Manufacturers and importers of substances as such or in mixtures, as well as competent authorities and inspections, have to get prepared for REACH registration to take place on accession.
	Much emphasis ought to be put on organising official helpdesks for this purpose, the rules on Safety Data Sheets and the rules on Classification and labelling.
	There are many tasks placed directly on the Member States and their competent authorities through the REACH Regulation. The core administration under Chemicals law should obtain satisfactory capacity in due time for these tasks.

	Core staffs from BiH should continue to take maximum advantage of supporting activities offered by the European Chemicals Agency.
4. Recommendations (including possible areas and nature of future assistance)	In order to lay the legal ground for the EU-harmonisation, let EU-harmonised rules come into force in the identical way in the whole of Bosnia-Herzegovina as soon as possible and become well known to your industry. Regarding the control of the access to certain substances, chemicals as such and chemicals in articles it refers to the following areas:
	1) REACH-rules that prepare your country for entering the EU Community system for the control of the access to Substances of very high concern (SVHC)
	2) REACH-restrictions on the manufacture, marketing and use of certain hazardous chemicals and articles containing or treated with chemicals
	3) Bans on the handling of persistent organic pollutants on the POPs Regulation implementing the Stockholm convention and special mercury restrictions (the EU Mercury Regulation)
	Adopt the EU Candidate list (the SVHC-list).
	Set-up helpdesk services to help industry navigate among your EU-harmonised rules
	Attached to this report you'll find the Final report presenting the EU-Accession Advice that has been given to BiH during this expert visit and the previous four expert missions (61795, 62246-62248) that were combined with this one. The recommendations in the Final report that directly stem from this expert meeting event are found in the chapters 3, 4 and 7 of the report (Recommendations to Chemicals law, Recommendations for the transposition of the REACH Regulation & Review of Member State tasks under EU Chemicals legislation).
	I again advise you to continue to regard the framework laws and the corresponding rulebooks as the impartible legislation package also when developing it further and when passing it to the decision-makers.

Stockholm 29 September 2016

**Attached:** Accession advice For the transposition of EU Chemicals regulations (CLP-REACH) and the Biocidal Products Regulation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Final report, Recommendations and reviews, Swedish Chemicals Agency, 29/09/2016

/Rapport sänd endast som e-post/