



Invitation

ANEC - the European Voice in Standardization and ASI CC - the Austrian Standards Institute Consumer Council - in co-operation with Austrian Ministry of Health (BMG), Austrian Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BMASK), Belgium Public Service (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Danish Environmental Protection Agency (Danish EPA), German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA), Swedish Chemicals Agency (KEMI) have the pleasure to invite you to the conference:

Hazardous chemicals in products

The need for enhanced EU regulations

Tuesday, 29 October 2013 (9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.)

European Economic and Social Committee- EESC
Rue Maerlant 2, Van Maerlant Building, Room VM3, Brussels

In October 2011 [ANEC, BEUC and the ASI Consumer Council organized a conference](#) on "How to eliminate hazardous chemicals from consumer articles?" We then addressed gaps in the current European regulatory framework for consumer products and identified some options for improvement.

The debate is not over! A comprehensive and systematic approach to address chemicals in products is still missing and with the follow-up conference of October 2013 we aim at identifying concrete options for regulatory action. The focus will be on those fields where national regulations or other relevant rules (e.g. Council of Europe) are already available or in preparation and could be easily transformed into European legislation.



Background:

The ANEC [position paper on chemicals in consumer products](#) is based on two studies commissioned by the ASI Consumer Council. A further study - [part 3](#) - was finalized in December 2012 outlining how some of the current regulatory gaps regarding chemicals in products could be filled.

Key issues to be addressed

As highlighted in the ANEC position paper and the ASI Consumer Council studies, specific European chemical performance requirements for products which consumers get into contact in their daily lives are either

- inadequate because of serious gaps (food contact materials – only plastics materials comprehensively regulated), absence of clear-cut limits (medical devices) or lack of ambition (toys); or
- (almost) not existing for most products of our daily lives (clothing, furniture, floor coverings, personal protective equipment, child care articles, sports equipment, construction products, interior of cars, ...).

REACH does not compensate for these deficits because articles are hardly covered, the restriction path is laborious and related to single substance risk assessments (generic bans of e.g. CMR substances in articles are not possible), an approval system for chemicals in articles is not possible (positive lists as in cosmetics and food contact legislation), non-toxic effects or parameters cannot be addressed (e.g. organoleptic parameters).

Regulatory action is often based on ad-hoc action where problems have been identified. Similarly, a systematic monitoring of chemicals in products does not take place. Lacking clear-cut regulatory provisions, market surveillance is rather limited. Information provision requirements for chemicals in articles also hardly exist. As a result the knowledge concerning the occurrence of chemical used in articles is rather limited.

Different options exist for enhancing the legal framework for chemicals in products. These include incorporation or strengthening of chemical provisions in existing product regulations (e.g. for toys), implementation of new product regulations (e.g. for textiles) or using new or expanding existing horizontal instruments to address chemicals in products. In many cases some kind of specification already exists and could be adopted at the European level.

The conference aims at discussing these issues in order to identify the way forward. The presentations are supposed to address the gaps and how they can be filled.

Registrations are now open! Please find below all the necessary instructions!

Conference programme

09:00	Welcome and introduction Benedicte Federspiel, EESC and ANEC
09:15	EU regulations for chemicals in products: Key areas to be addressed Franz Fiala, Consumer Council, ASI and ANEC
09:40	The Commission's perspective Björn Hansen, European Commission
10:05	Food contact materials - gaps to be addressed Speaker to be identified
10:30	Coffee Break
10:45	Water supply materials – European Approval System (EAS) Jelka Appelman, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment
11:10	Indoor emissions Christine Däumling, UBA, Germany
11:35	Textiles Susan Strömbon, KEMI - Swedish Chemicals Agency
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Toys and child care articles Daniela Schachner, AGES – Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety
13:25	Tattoo colours Elisabeth Paludan, Danish EPA
13:50	Chemicals in products – Information requirements Eva Becker and Johanna Wurbs, UBA, Germany
14:15	Products containing nanomaterials and register for nanomaterials Juan Pineros, Belgium Public Service (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment
14:40	Coffee Break
15:10	Panel discussion on strategies for toxic free products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Björn Hansen - European Commission ○ Kevin Stairs - Greenpeace European Unit ○ Erik Gravenfors - KEMI - Swedish Chemicals Agency ○ Elisabeth Paludan - Danish EPA ○ Industry - Speaker to be identified ○ Franz Fiala - ASI Consumer Council and ANEC
16:25	General discussion and conclusions
16:45	Closure of the meeting Arnold Pindar, ANEC

Moderator: Stefan Scheuer

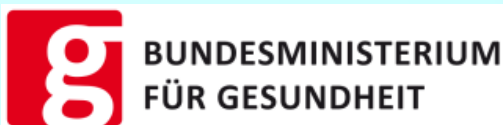


ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation. It was set up in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law. ANEC represents consumer organisations from 33 countries and deals with consumer interests in the creation of technical standards, especially those developed to support the implementation of European laws and public policies.



The ASI Consumer Council is a special committee of the managing board of ASI, the Austrian Standard Institute. It was established in 1991 to represent the consumer interests in the field of standardisation and is financed by the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.

With the support of:



How to register

- **Attendance of the conference is by registration only.**
- In order to register, please fill in the annexed **registration form** in all its parts and return it **by 7 October 2013** at the latest to the ANEC Secretariat by email **anec@anec.eu** or fax: **+32 2 706 54 30**.
- You will receive a confirmation of your registration via email. Confirmation is compulsory!
- Once registered, we kindly ask you to inform the ANEC Secretariat in the event you will not be able to attend the conference any more **by 15 October** because the number of seats will be limited and we would like to offer participation to the highest possible number of experts to this conference.
- The participation in the conference is free of charge but ANEC and ASI CC will not reimburse your travel and accommodation expenses.
- Please note that the conference and all the distribution materials are going to be provided only in English.

For further information on the conference, please
contact ANEC:

Av. de Tervueren 32, box 27, BE-1040 Brussels

Tel. +32 (0)2 743 24 70, Fax +32 (0)2 706 54

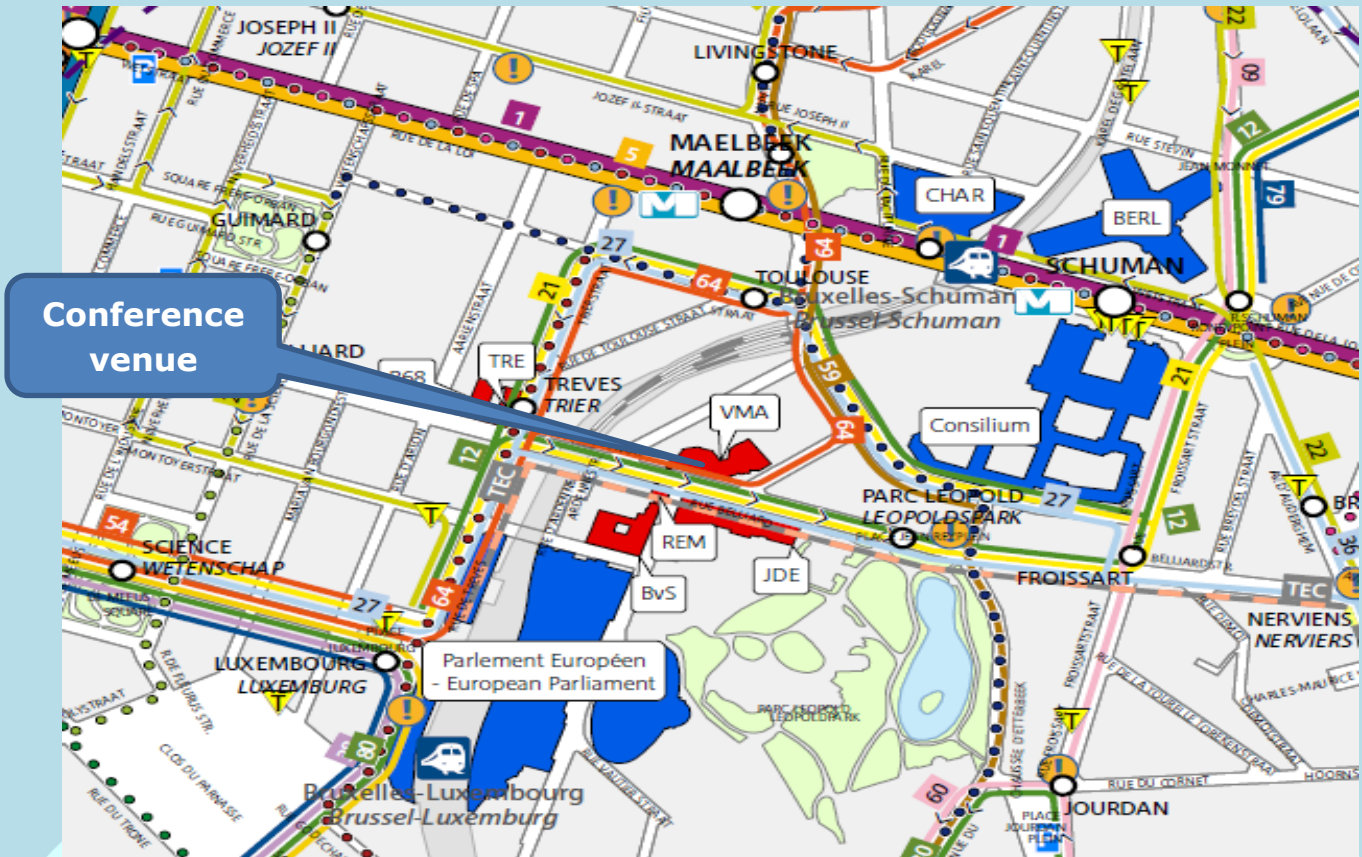
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Email: anec@anec.eu

How to reach the conference venue:

European Economic and Social Committee

Rue Maerlant 2, Van Maerlant Building, Room VM3, Brussels, Belgium



More directions [here](#)

Arrival at Brussels Airport

A train to downtown is leaving the airport every 20 minutes. Take the train 'Brussels Central Station' (the journey takes about 20 minutes). When in the Central Station, take the Metro 'line 1 or 5' – direction Stockel or Hermann Debroux – until Maelbeek. When getting out of the Metro Station Maelbeek, take the exit 'Chaussée d'Etterbeek'. Once at the exit, turn on your right on Chaussée d'Etterbeek. Take the third street on your right (Rue de Pascale) and at the end of the street, turn left on Rue Belliard and walk until you reach Rue Maerlant. Follow the street to reach the address number 2.

Arrival at Brussels Southern Station (Gare du Midi/Zuid)

From the Brussels Southern Train Station, take the Metro line 2 or 6 – direction Simonis – until 'Arts-Lois'. From Arts-Lois, take the Metro 'line 1 or 5' direction Stockel or Hermann Debroux, until Maelbeek. Then, see the direction mentioned above.