

Cefic intervention at TTIP Stakeholders event, 15 July 2015

Chemicals Regulatory Cooperation

The European chemical industry considers TTIP as an opportunity for better regulatory cooperation. This doesn't mean that current legislation should be harmonised on both sides of the Atlantic: this topic will not be addressed under TTIP. **In practice, REACH will NOT be open for discussion and the process of implementation will NOT be slowed down.** Mutual recognition as such will not be possible because regulations differ too much.

Our proposal is to achieve **scientific cooperation** that will ensure data assessment submitted in one region will be similarly accepted for its scientific relevance, so **greater compatibility**. Also that confidential business information and intellectual property rights will be appropriately considered. As an example, we need to explore where evaluation of risk assessment methods would concur with the aim of simplifying the burden for the authorities and industry. This would avoid duplication of efforts and would increase efficiency.

Cefic fully supports the Commission proposed pilot tests to promote alignment on classification and labelling of substances and prioritisation of chemicals for risk assessment. The outcome should however lead to an ambitious economic improvement to be successful. Similarly the consultation foreseen on both sides for new and emerging issues would allow review of all scientific knowledge and expertise and be an additional benefit for each policy framework. This doesn't mean alignment is needed or possible.

In conclusion, the regulatory cooperation on chemicals under TTIP is an opportunity to **reduce the burden on small and big companies when trading but also to facilitate the work of authorities while keeping current legislation framework. It should aim for **better coordination of practices** and demonstrate **no reduction in environment and health protection**.**

<http://www.cefic.org/Policy-Centre/Industry-Policy/Trade-Policy/Documents/>