IFRA Europe welcomes the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability roadmap
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IFRA Europe welcomes the European Commission Roadmap on the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS).

As the voice of fragrance manufacturers/suppliers in Europe, IFRA Europe is committed to consumer safety and to sustainable development across their many dimensions by continuously looking to create truly sustainable and innovative solutions.

For this reason, IFRA Europe supports the European Green Deal goals aiming at protecting citizens and the environment while at the same time encouraging innovation through safety and sustainability.

Given that the aim of this initiative is to simplify and strengthen the legal framework, IFRA Europe calls for a coherent, integrated and scientifically-based approach while using non-animal methods for safety assessments.

This approach should be relevant, transparent, proportionate and effective to manage complex issues, such as the topic of endocrine disruptors (EDs). EDs should be regulated on the basis of risk – which has also been the position of the Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS). Regulating chemicals based on hazard properties alone is excessively simplistic and can lead to the stigmatization and/or removal from the market of chemicals with important societal and economic benefits.

Future legislative initiatives should be accompanied by robust impact assessments, conducted in close cooperation with the stakeholders who are concerned. This approach should also apply to hazard classification: the classification and labelling of chemical substances and mixtures is a legislative tool to communicate on hazardous properties, not on risk, and can result in far-reaching consequences for downstream users, and other legislative action.

The CSS offers an opportunity for greater predictability and consistency in regulation, avoiding last-minute surprises and changes for industry, the implementation of which can have a significant impact on business continuity.

IFRA Europe welcomes a Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability that will also support the digital transition. We appreciate the willingness of the Commission “to achieve a twin green and digital transition” through “an innovative, responsible and sustainable chemicals industry”.

The CSS should consider leveraging the European digital agenda and make use of digitalization initiatives within the chemicals industries to achieve more effective, relevant and easy-to-understand communication that provides information on the hazards, risks and safe use of chemicals.

Contact: Charles Laroche, IFRA Europe Director (charles.laroche@skynet.be)
About IFRA Europe

IFRA Europe is the European section of The International Fragrance Association.

The International Fragrance Association, founded in 1973, represents the interests of the fragrance industry worldwide. IFRA comprises seven multinational companies, 21 national associations in four global regions representing hundreds of small and medium-sized fragrance ingredient manufacturers, and seven supporting members. Its mission is to promote the safe use of fragrance for everyone’s enjoyment.

Fragrances are a key platform technology used by consumer goods companies – for fine fragrances, personal care products, household care and more.

IFRA’s flagship safe use program, the IFRA Standards, applies safety management measures based on scientific assessment and the evaluations of an independent Expert Panel. The program is at the heart of the IFRA Code of Practice, which applies to all IFRA members globally, including members of IFRA’s 21 national associations. The Code also requires members to abide by local, national and international regulation, and to apply good manufacturing practices.

For further information, please visit ifrafragrance.org