

Permanent Representations of the EU Member States and EEA-EFTA Countries

Sent by email only

Subject: Member States' and EEA-EFTA countries' nominations to ECHA Committees RAC and SEAC - Renewal and new membership

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is launching the process for (re)nominating candidates for membership of the Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC).¹

We would like to draw your attention to the importance of prompt nomination of committees' members. The ex-post evaluation of ECHA's Committees, conducted in 2023, found that RAC and SEAC are working at their capacity limits and that there is a significant untapped potential for Member States to nominate more members to these committees.

You are kindly invited to submit your nominations and supporting documents **no later than Monday 27 October 2025** to <u>Committees-secretariat@echa.europa.eu</u>.

Please note that nominations must come through the Permanent Representation/Mission to the EU. This is to be done preferably by forwarding to ECHA, via email, the **nomination form** (Annex 3) signed by the Member State Competent Authority (MSCA). Supporting documents can be provided directly to ECHA by the nominee or MSCA.

According to the REACH Regulation each country can nominate up to two RAC and SEAC members. However, some Member States have nominated only one committee member, and some Member States have nominated none. Because of this, RAC is at about 80% of full capacity and SEAC at just over 50%. In addition, new expertise is needed to carry out new tasks (Drinking water, Batteries, etc.).

Prior to submitting the (re-)nomination documents, the <u>nominating authority is strongly</u> <u>recommended to liaise with the Chairs of RAC and SEAC</u>, respectively, to discuss suitable profiles for candidates being nominated for the first time and to discuss the performance of candidates (current members) proposed for re-nomination:

Roberto SCAZZOLA Chair of RAC: roberto.scazzola@echa.europa.eu
Maria OTTATI Chair of SEAC: maria.ottati@echa.europa.eu

A phone interview with the respective Chair will be organized for all new candidates; nominations will only be forwarded for consideration by the Management Board of the Agency once this has successfully been completed and the Chairs have reviewed the qualifications and availability of the nominees.

¹ REACH Regulation, Articles 85(1) and (2).

1. Practicalities

The names of the current members whose term of office is about to end are listed in Annex 1 and the full list of vacancies is contained in Annex 2.

To support Member States in selecting the most appropriate candidates, we attach background documents (Annexes 4 and 5) that describe the two Committees of ECHA with respect to their tasks, role of members and ways of operation. The background documents also specify the current needs of the Committees in terms of scientific expertise.

Members are expected to provide at least 50% of their time to the work of the Committees and the nominating authority, on behalf of the member's employer, guarantees this by signing Annex 3 of the nomination papers. All members of RAC and SEAC are required to take on the crucial role of rapporteur and draft the scientific opinion of the Committee on specific cases. Commenting on draft opinions circulated for Committee consultation is also an important ongoing task.

Supporting documents for nomination of new candidates

- Expertise grid (Annexes 4-5)
- Declaration of Interest (Annex 6)
- Europass CV (Annex 7)

Supporting documents for renewal of current membership

 Annexes 4-7. Note that the RAC Expertise grid was updated to take account of specific expertise needed for new RAC processes. Please submit updated grids for all renewals.

2. Independence of members

The appointing authority is invited to read the ECHA policy on <u>Prevention and Management of potential Conflicts of Interest</u> and in particular its Annex 2 on the Eligibility criteria for candidates for membership in the ECHA bodies and for key positions in the ECHA Secretariat.

3. Publication of personal data²

ECHA will process any personal data received in accordance with ECHA's <u>privacy rules</u>. Please note that the list of nominees, the membership of the Committees, professional qualifications and Declaration of Interests of the members shall be made public on the Agency's website.

If you have any questions, please contact the Committees Secretariat at: committees-secretariat@echa.europa.eu.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)3

Peter van der Zandt Director of Risk Management

² Article 88(1) and 85 of REACH

³ As this is an electronic document, it is not physically signed. This communication has been approved according to ECHA's internal decision approval process.

Cc: REACH Competent Authorities of the Member States Secretariat of the ECHA Management Board Members of ECHA Committees listed in Annex 1

Encls. Annex 1 Members of the Committees whose term of office is expiring

Annex 2 List of vacant positions on the two Committees

Annex 3 Nomination form

Annex 4 Background paper on RAC with the updated expertise grid

Annex 5 Background paper on SEAC with the updated expertise grid

Annex 6 ECHA Declaration of Interest

Annex 7 Europass CV template