

Towards a 2nd ETUC Resolution on nanotechnologies

5th seminar on workers' protection and chemicals

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BACKGROUND

- ETUC working Group on Nanotechnologies:
AT, DE, DK, ES, IRE,FI, FR, NL, NW
- ETUC Resolution on Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials
Adopted by the ETUC Executive Committee in June 2008.
- The inputs of the ETUC Resolution are:

To point out essential elements of the European policy that need to be addressed for a responsible and sustainable development of nanotechnologies.

It is a contribution to the EC Action Plan on Nanotechnologies and Nanosciences 2005/2009, which calls for an assessment on health, environment, consumers & workers.

ETUC Resolution: Topics

TOPICS



DEMANDS

1.- Marketing

- Application of REACH

2.- Workers' protection

- Risk assessment, SDS & exposure controls

3.- R&D

- Increase budget to 15%
H&S reporting

4.- Terminology

- Standardized terminology, adoption of a definition

5.- Legislative framework

- Amend REACH
Code of Conducts
EC: No more legislation until revised
EP: Emphasis on legislation and less implementation

ETUC Resolution: TOPICS

TOPICS



DEMANDS

6.- Consumers & Products

Label

National register of nano-products

7.- Application of the Precautionary principle

Priority principle in REACH

'It is a must'

Registration of a substance

Risk assessment

The actualization of the ETUC Resolution

- The EC is revision all the legislation touching nanotechnology issues, it will deliver a report to the EP on 2011.
- The ETUC working Group on Nanotechnologies should have 2 working meetings in 2010 for making a proposal to the ETUC.
- The ETUC needs time to revise the proposal and eventually approve it.

Why the need of actualization?

FACTS



QUESTIONS

1.- Introduction

- Actualise the reference to COM(2009)607 final, Nanosciences and nanotechnologies: an action plan for Europe 2005-2009, Second Implementation report {SEC(2009)1468}.

2.- Budget: Figure concerning the budget allocated to H&S aspects
15%

- Where's the reasoning on that?
What % of Fp6 Fp7 was allocated to health and environment?
Biomedicine & Pharma examples

Why the need of actualization?

FACTS

3.- Workers' Exposure: Closed systems

4.- Test methods

QUESTIONS

- Manufacture? Waste mgmt?
Recycling?
SMIs
Inventory of workers exposed
- Some of them do work for some NPs
How to have a safe use of NMs?

Why the need of actualization?

FACTS

- 5.- Definition
Standardisation 40 ISO projects

- 6.- Asbestos' weight

- 7.- No legislation (EC)

QUESTIONS

- Is the KEY issue to come
What are the TU doing in that field?
Our challenge is to pick the most important standards for OSH (BE)

 - To actualize CNT issue
Fiber phenomena
status of fullerenes
- Then instruments like guidance for OSH

To be considered for inclusion

- 1.- Standards: Meeting at the ETUI
Stefano Boy, Tony Musu
Kan included?
- 2.- Ethical issues
- 4.- Innovation is part of the sustainable development discourse
Governance of innovation
- 5.- Transparency on the market (PvB)
Introduction of NanoReferenceValues
- 6.- Inventory of workers exposed to nano.
Registration at the workplace where NPs are produced (PvB)
- 7.- European Committee on Nanotechnologies (FR)
- 8.- Instruments of implementation (including CoC)

To be considered for inclusion

- 9.- SDS to be delivered by the supplier to the user in case of hazardous products. (PvB)
- 10.- The derivation of health-based recommended occupational exposure limits for substances with dimensions at the nanoscale (nano-HBR-OEL) (PvB)
- 11.- Adaptation of the Life Cycle approach as a method to assess the acceptability of nanoproducts for the market, where environmental as well as health risks are assessed at all the stages of the product life cycle. (PvB)

Thank you!

etui.