

## **PetCo working group 17<sup>th</sup> meeting notes (WebEx meeting, 3-4 November 2021)**

The 17<sup>th</sup> PETCO WG WebEx meeting took place on 3 and 4 November 2021.

34 external participants attended the meeting remotely representing 6 Member States (DE, DK, ES, PL, NL, FR), the European Commission (DG GROW) and 4 industry organisations (Concawe, CEFIC Coal Chemicals Sector Group (CCSG), Lower Olefins and Aromatics (LOA), HydroCarbon Solvents (HCS)).

The focus of the meeting was to discuss progress with stakeholders from both human health and environmental hazard assessment.

The **human health assessment** is progressing in the context of the ongoing testing proposals for the different consortia involved. In general, the approaches developed focus on gathering more information on composition of those complex substances in order to identify substances for testing and establish structural similarity (according to Annex XI, 1.5 of REACH) with the view to support category approaches.

For the **environment** the need to progress was emphasised by authorities at the April meeting. More concrete plans have been brought for discussion with authorities. The aim is to translate those plans into actual commitments in 2022.

Another point brought on the agenda was a presentation by ECHA on the restriction roadmap to explain the rationale behind the inclusion of petroleum substances used by consumers and professionals in the rolling list of restriction. The presentation was welcome, and some work will be initiated in 2022 by ECHA. Input of stakeholders to that work in the context of the PetCo working group needs to be discussed further.