

High level group Chemical industry

Official start:
10 September 2007



Background

- EU Commission announced set-up of a working group in Communication on Industrial Policy already in 2005
- As HLG was not intended to be involved in REACH debate, kick-off was postponed several times
- It is the 3rd HLG after Automotive Industry and Energy/Environment
- Alltogether 7 cross-sectoral and 7 sector-specific initiatives have been launched since 2005

Task

- Fixed in decision of the EU Commission of 24 June 2007:
 - „to conduct economic and statistical analyses of the factors determining the structural changes in the chemical industry as well as other factors that influence the competitive position of the European chemical industry
 - to assist the Commission in questions related to the competitiveness of the chemical industry
 - To formulate a set of sector-specific policy recommendations addressed to policy makers at the Community and national level, industry and society organisations”

Members

- Members of the HLG have been appointed by the EU Commission for 2 years
- 8 representatives from industry, 8 from member states, 3 from EP, 5 from societal organisations including 1 mandate for trade unions – 6 members of the EU Commission will be involved
- Demand from the social dialogue to be involved was neglected
- List and further information is available on the homepage of the EU Commission

Kick-off meeting

- First meeting has taken place on 10 September 2007
- Program of the HLG including the set up of subgroups was discussed and adopted
- „Sherpa“ group will prepare documents for HLG meetings with support of EU Commission

Subgroups

- 6 Subgroups are supposed to discuss more in detail and to prepare recommendations
- Subgroup on innovation and human resources has held 2 meetings until now
 - results will be discussed in HLG meeting on 18 December 2007

More information

- Documents from the HLG will be published by the EU Commission:

http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise/chemicals/hlg/index_en.htm